

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE
OF WILMINGTON, SOMERSET.

JOSEPH HOYLAND FOX

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**THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE
AT WELLINGTON, SOMERSET**



Joseph Hoyland Fox
on his eightieth birthday

THE WOOLLEN
MANUFACTURE
AT WELLINGTON, SOMERSET

Compiled *from the* Records
of an Old Family Business: *By*
JOSEPH HOYLAND FOX

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INTRODUCTION

THIS narrative of the growth of an industrial undertaking in the West of England, carried on for nearly 250 years by the same family, may, I trust, be of interest as revealing some of the difficulties that beset men engaged in business in the days preceding the introduction of steam power, railways, steamships, telegraph, telephones, and the many other inventions that have brought all the nations of the world into such close touch with one another.

The men of the old time had great difficulties to contend with ; their lives were much quieter and simpler than ours, their interests more limited, and they knew little of the excitement which seems to be inseparable from modern life.

These men were Quakers, and those who lived in the seventeenth century must have shared in the bitter persecutions of those days.

I am much indebted to Dr. R. Hingston Fox and to Mr. Francis Were for valuable information in regard to the Were and Fox families, and to Mr. Arthur L. Humphreys for useful hints and for kind assistance in the work.

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The WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE AT WELLINGTON, SOMERSET

THIS history begins with a short sketch of the Were family taken from Burke's *Commoners of England*, and from a pedigree of the family kindly given to me by Mr. F. Were, of Stoke Bishop, also from a pedigree that is in an old memorandum-book belonging to the Were firm.

In Appendix A will be found a compilation from these various sources.

The earliest reference to the Weare family, as it was then spelt, is found in a deed in the library of Sir Thomas Phillipps, Bart., relating to the family of Weare. This deed was used by John Burke in his *History of the Commoners*. The concluding part of the document states:—‘This indenture made at Weare Giffard¹ between William de Salene of the one part and William Weare, lord of Weare Giffard of the other part.’ Anno 13, Henry IV. (1461). Signed William Weare.

The family of Giffard took the name of Weare only upon inheriting that part of the property of the Manor of Giffard called Weare Giffard.

At the time of the Civil War a Colonel John Were lived at Halberton Court. His relations were on the

¹ Weare Giffard is situated on the River Torridge, not far from Bideford.

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Royalist side, but he fought against the King, having a command in the Parliamentary army. He was imprisoned in the Tower, on a charge of treachery and of having betrayed a portion of the Parliamentary forces to the enemy. He petitioned the House of Commons, who ordered his release after a year's captivity, and he returned to his home at Halberton. It is highly probable that he was a relation of the Weres who lived in the parish of Burlescombe.¹ The following extract from the Register of Uffculme Parish Church seems to indicate this:—

‘1670, Dec. 3rd was Edith, the daughter of John Were of Halberton and Agnis, his wife, buried.’

We find that another John Were lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth at Pinksmoor Mills, situated on the river just above Westford, and in the parish of Wellington. It is probable that at that time they were fulling mills, and that John Were was a serge-maker; if so, the business of serge-making may have been carried on by the family for considerably more than three hundred years.

This John Were had two sons, the elder, John, inherited the land at Wellington, and the younger, Nicholas, had Sowden Farm in the parish of Burlescombe, land at Prescott, near Culmstock, and at Little Sanford.

Robert, son of Nicholas, owned Sowden Farm. He was the father of Peter Were, who moved to Uffculme in Devonshire, and was married in 1686 at the Friends' Meeting House called Spiceland to Joan Rawlings (Uffculme), and was the inventor of the celebrated

WRE mark, well known in the trade for a great many years.

¹ Uffculme and Burlescombe are adjoining parishes and not far from Halberton.

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The branch of the Were family living at Burlescombe and Uffculme must have joined the Society of Friends in its very earliest days. There were at that time a large number of Friends residing at Cullompton and in the Culm Valley. Besse's *Sufferings of Friends* records that seventy Friends from Cullompton and its neighbourhood were at one time imprisoned in Exeter Gaol, and in the same book we find this entry:—

‘Robert Were prosecuted by John Moggridge, priest, of Burlescombe, for tithe, was committed to the High Court in Exon, by warrant from two justices grounded on a certificate out of the Ecclesiastical Court, on the 17th day of December, 1690.’

The first authentic evidence that I can find of the connection of the Were family with the serge business is derived from a declaration made before the Wellington Justices in 1751 (see Appendix B), where it was stated that Thomas Were the elder is the son of the next brother and heir-at-law of Peter Were, deceased, the ancient author of the W R E mark and first sort of goods, and that Thomas Were the elder has been in the business for thirty or forty years. It also appears that the father of Thomas Were the elder was engaged in the business. Thomas Were the elder must have been engaged in it from 1711 or 1721. It may from this be safely inferred that his father and uncles were serge-makers at the beginning of the century, and probably at a considerably earlier date, as Peter Were was married in 1686.

In addition to the work carried on at Uffculme, they must have had fulling mills at Tone and Harford Bridge, Wellington, from a very early date. There exists among the archives at Tonedale the Balance Sheet, dated 1736.

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of Robert Were, who carried on the serge business at Wellington.

Thomas Weare, grandson of Robert Weare, dropped the 'a,' and spelt the name *Were*. He resided at Wellington, and was possessed of lands at Great and Little Sowden, the Westleigh Estate, 'Old Baums,' Penslade, Escotts, Osmonds, in the County of Devon; also the manor of Runnington, Landcox, Rockwell Green, Perry Elm, Durston, and other estates in the County of Somerset. These he divided among his eight sons. He also left three daughters.

The sons were as follows:—

1. Robert of Runnington Manor.
2. Peter, d. s. p.
3. Thomas, d. s. p.
4. John, d. s. p.
5. Nicholas of Landcox, Osmonds, Penslade, &c. He married Mary Colesworthy of Mount Radford, Devonshire.
6. William, d. s. p.
7. Berry, d. s. p.
8. Joseph, who moved to Bristol and married Elizabeth Colesworthy, sister to Mary, of Mount Radford.

(The Colesworthys were descended from the old family of the Harfords.)

Thomas Were's second brother was Peter of Sampford Arundel, who owned the Werescot Estate.

He also had a sister, Elizabeth, who married George Fox, of Perran, near Falmouth.

Mary, the wife of Nicholas, the fifth son, was a well-known minister in the Society of Friends. Sarah Champion, afterwards the wife of Charles Fox of Plymouth, paid a visit to Landcox in 1782, and writes: 'a

it was East up July 15th

June 24th 1734 Then East up the
Stock I have in Trade. Robert Were

Merchants Depts is			
Geo: Osmond	500		
Jon: Storie	345		
John London	025		
Wm: Thorne	059		
	889	=	=
Wool in house full & fleece	223	=	=
Dregat in house Raw	100	=	=
Wool at spinning 1435	89	=	=
Oyl: Lincolns Dist: stuff: perins: Soaps	72	=	=
Due one Smale Books Depts at home	66	=	=
Cash in house	160	=	=
Sp: at weaving	45	=	=
Sarges in house not dyed	58	=	=
Woolstord & yarn: 1050 in house	95	=	=
Best Sarges and fine South Sarges	31	=	=
Wool Thane & dido & Base & Whit	61	=	=
	1000	=	=
Due from Merchants: 0889			
And all good 1000			
	1889		
What I doe owe out of it is to the			
Cred: of Wm: Howett	44	=	=
Due to Conin: Collier	50	=	=
Wm: Bicknells share	100	=	=
Smale depts	406	=	=
Depts is	200	=	=
Then left of my Own:	1689	=	=
	1889	=	=
I have not lost any bad Depts that			
was due from Burridge or Andrews or			
Howett or Geo: Richards			
In Trade of Good Dept I believe	1689	=	=
In Howells Goods which is worth more	151	=	=
	1840	=	=

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very worthy and agreeable family in which harmony and simplicity and order reign.' She also relates (1785) that Mary Were, the wife of Nicholas, 'sang us two or three of her delightful songs.' Nicholas Were left a legacy of 50*l.* Consols, for the upkeep of the Wellington Meeting House, to be accumulated until it reached 500*l.* The Friends of Wellington have long enjoyed the proceeds of this legacy. He also left a legacy of 20*l.* towards the purchase of a field attached to the Spiceland Meeting House premises, situated in the Parish of Uffculme, Devon.

The following extract from Francis Dymond's History of the Trust Properties belonging to the Devon and Cornwall Quarterly Meeting of Friends gives a vivid picture of those days of religious persecution.

'Most of the Meeting Houses in the West of England and elsewhere throughout the country were not built until after the Toleration Act, 1689. Archbishop Sheldon's terrible Act for the extirpation of Nonconformists generally and especially of Quakers, was passed in 1670, and for nearly twenty years its provisions had been enforced all over England with pitiless rigour. It is difficult in these days to realise the ruin that they brought to thousands of peaceful and once prosperous homes.

'This desolating tempest was in full blast when these East Devon Friends purchased their site, erected their Meeting House, and boldly recorded the purposes for which it was to be used.

'It is probable that they were well aware that, in the same year in which they signed the Trust Deed, the names of thirty Devonshire Friends were recorded in the Monthly and Quarterly Meeting minute-books as being at that time prisoners in the filthy cells of the county jail at Exeter.

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‘ He who remembers the surrounding facts will hardly fail to recognise in the now quaint language of the quoted Deed, the earnest faith and abounding spiritual life of the men who risked their humble all, and their personal liberty, to raise this building for the worship of their God, and to provide a last resting-place for their loved but departed brethren.’

1752. The name of the firm at that time was Thomas and Robert Were, or Thomas and Robert Were and Co. Letters were addressed in both ways. Also in 1754, Thomas and Elizabeth Were and Sons, as shown by the inscription on the stone that was let into the wall at Tone Mills :—

Thomas & Elizabeth Were & Sons

1754.

Elizabeth Were was the daughter of Peter Berry of Wellington, who married Elizabeth Hewlett in 1695, both being Friends. He was one of the Trustees in whose names the Friends’ Burial Ground at Wellington was invested, Robert Were being another: the land was bought in 1700; the land for the Meeting House six years earlier, in 1694. The erection of the present Meeting House was completed in 1845.

Peter Berry, described in an old deed as a yeoman, removed from Wellington to Taunton, and either purchased or rented an estate called ‘ Fullerns ’ or ‘ Fullands,’ and in old deeds ‘ Fullings.’ As there was a very large serge trade carried on at that time in Taunton, it is probable that Fullings was a fulling mill, and it may be that he carried on serge-making there. He had several children, among them Elizabeth, who married Thomas

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Were, the son of Robert Were, of Sanford, in 1717 ; and Sarah, who married in 1735, William Cookworthy, of Plymouth, the inventor of English porcelain or china.

The introduction of machinery for the carding and spinning of wool did not take place until the close of the eighteenth century. Before that time all the work was carried on by hand, as well as combing and weaving, this being done in the cottages. A large part of the population of Somerset and Devon were thus employed, not only the people in the towns, but also throughout the country districts. The introduction of machinery and the erection of mills caused a social revolution and concentrated in the towns the work previously done in the country districts.

1754 was the year of the Taunton Election, that proved so disastrous to the woollen industry in that town, where the manufacture of serges had employed some eight thousand people—men, women, and children. Much of this trade was diverted to other places, and a considerable share must have gone to Wellington.

The following extract from Toulmin's history of Taunton explains the reason for the diversion of the serge trade from Taunton to other localities :—

‘The trade of Taunton is now reduced to a low ebb. Houses in the suburbs have fallen into ruins and been destroyed, and the number of inhabitants greatly decreased ; while the woollen manufactory in other places, and in the north particularly, has flourished. The decay of it here must be therefore sought in causes that have had a local operation. Contested elections, by no means friendly to industry, must have proved particularly prejudicial to a trade which, at times, could admit of no delay in the execution of orders for goods that must be

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ready for the sailing of ships and the seasons of foreign affairs.

‘The mischief of their influence in this respect was particularly felt in the continued and violent opposition of the year 1754. The demand for its goods was then great; but through the idleness and debauchery of the season it could not be answered. The orders, being returned to the merchants, were sent for execution to other towns, with which, the intercourse being thus opened, was continued.’

This growth of the Wellington business that followed the Taunton election, is shown by the following figures. In 1754, the total assets of the Weres’ business amounted to 9816*l.*, and the partners’ capital to 6089*l.* In 1771 these figures had increased to 39,984*l.* and 22,433*l.* respectively, the amount being nearly quadrupled—a remarkable growth!

In order to obtain sufficient capital to carry on the business, a large sum was borrowed from relatives and friends, amounting at that time to 14,000*l.* The principal amounts will be found in Appendix C.

The early history of this serge business carried on by our ancestors takes us back to the latter part of the seventeenth and to the eighteenth centuries, and it is interesting to try to picture the conditions of life during this period, not only in England, but in the world beyond the sea.

The means of inter-communication were very different from what they are at the present day. In our own country the roads were very bad, and the ordinary way of going from place to place was on horseback. To travel by ‘post-chaise’ was a very expensive luxury, and there were few public conveyances before the introduction of

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the mail-coach in 1784. For carrying goods there were heavy stage wagons drawn by six or eight horses, and other stage vehicles, travelling very slowly, for the use of those who could not afford horses. It appears that as early as 1673 coaches ran between London and Exeter, making the journey in five days. The roads were infested by highwaymen and robberies were frequent. The mail coaches were first introduced by John Palmer, manager of the Bath Theatre in 1784. The first coaches from London to Bath took two days; as they used the same horses, but the plan of having relays was soon introduced. As the system extended, it was found needful to improve the roads, and the turnpike trusts were started with the toll-gates. Prior to the days of the mail-coach, the letters were carried on horseback at an average speed of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour. As they did not travel by night, letters must have taken about five days from Wellington to London; our forefathers, on horseback, about four days to go to London or to Falmouth—the ladies riding behind on pillions.

All goods for London and the continent were shipped from Topsham, on the Exe, and wool was brought over from Ireland to Minehead. Very little went to any great distance by road, probably some goods were carried by wagon as far as Bristol, but by far the greater part went by wagon through Exeter to Topsham, for transit by water.

Early in the eighteenth century, two or three daily papers had been started in London, followed by the *Times* in 1785, but the early papers were only half-sheets, printed on one side, and can have contained very little information. Our ancestors at Wellington may have taken in some small weekly news-sheet, published in the West, but Wellington being on the main road, they

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were not dependent on that, as many travellers on horseback would be passing through, who would carry a certain amount of news; many Friends also would stop at Wellington. It is probable that a good many of the latter were entertained at the houses of Peter Berry, Thomas Were, Nicholas Were, and others of the Were family. Thomas Were's three daughters and five of Peter Berry's were married to Friends living at a distance from Wellington; the young men probably making the acquaintance of their future wives whilst being hospitably received at their fathers' houses.

The large trade that was done with the Continent at that time was carried on in spite of such disadvantages as the heavy postage, 3s. 4d. for each letter; the enormous cost of the transit of goods; the difficulty of collecting debts; the risk of bad debts; and the interference with trade by the frequent wars in which England was engaged. In the earlier part of the century by far the greater portion of the goods the Weres manufactured was exported to the Continent, and was mostly sent to Dutch ports, or to Ostend, Hamburg, or Altona, and thence distributed over the Continent. There were about eighty towns with which they traded, in some of them having several customers. A list of these towns is given in an Appendix; Holland, Belgium, Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Russia, and Spain are all represented. There were four customers at Botzen, the capital of Sud Tyrol, as well as three at Verona. The goods for these places were shipped to Ostend, Hamburg, or Altona, and probably carried up the Rhine as far as Frankfort. Thence by wagon over the Brenner Pass, the great high road for the goods traffic between the North and South of the Alps from the time of the Romans to the nineteenth century. The cost of



"ARMADA" CHESTS.

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transit from Ostend to Botzen and Verona must have been very great, but as the goods were shipped at Topsham f. o. b. there is no means of ascertaining the expense of the land carriage or of the customs duties, which I have reason to believe were considerable.

The two iron chests now in the Board Room at Tonedale have probably been in the possession of the family for a very long time, but I cannot find any facts that will throw light on their origin. They are known by the name of Armada Chests; there is a similar one in the Museum at Exeter called by that name. I have also seen another offered for sale in a shop at Dover. It is not likely that these chests ever belonged to any of the ships of the Spanish Armada, but they are probably ship's chests of Spanish make. Ships of war in those days of necessity carried a chest for holding the specie that was needed to pay for stores purchased in foreign ports, the chest being under the charge of the purser.

In the history of the Sun Fire Office, which was established in 1710, we find that the Directors procured two such chests for the purpose of keeping their monies. They are still to be seen in their Board Room, and illustrations of them are given in the history of the Company. It was the practice to put all premiums paid to them into these chests and to draw out from them the cash required to pay for losses by fire. As there was no banking account kept these chests answered the purposes of bank and strong room. When the chests became full a bonus was distributed, and when empty a call was made. Soon after the Company started some of their funds were invested, but the founder of the Company protested against this practice, alleging that it was contrary to their regulations, and that, in his opinion, it was safer to

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keep the money in the chests than to run the risk of investing it.

The chests at Tonedale were no doubt used by the Weres to keep a supply of cash for paying wages. This was very necessary, as in those days they were unable to procure it from a bank, having no banking account, and the supply from other sources was very precarious, especially when there was such risk of robbery on the high roads. I find that before the opening of the first banking account in 1772, there was usually about 1000*l.* in cash shown in the annual balance-sheets, but subsequently the amount was very much smaller.

The correspondence relating to the opening of this first banking account will be found in Appendix G.

John Were died in the year 1772. He was a son of Thomas Were, senr., and lived at Sampford Arundell.

He left the following legacies :—

Robert Were	£54	15	0	} Sons of T. Were, senr.
Thomas Were, jnr.	54	15	0	
Nicholas Were	54	15	0	
William Were	54	15	0	
Elizabeth Matravers	54	15	0	} Daughters of T. Were, senr.
Anna Fox	54	15	0	
Mary Fox	54	15	0	
Thomas Fox	5	5	0	} Grandsons of T. Were, senr.
Stephen Matravers	5	5	0	
Joseph Were	54	15	0	Son of T. Were,
	£448	10	0	senr.

My grandfather, Thomas Fox, was the son of Edward Fox, of Wadebridge, who had married Anna, one of the daughters of Thomas Were, senr.

There were very few young men in the Were family,



THOMAS FOX.
Born 1748. Died 1821.



SARAH SMITH.
(Wife of Thomas Fox.)
Died 1833.

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the grandsons of T. Were, senr., who could be trusted to carry on the business, and it was no doubt in consequence of this that it was thought desirable to strengthen the personnel by the introduction of Stephen Matravers and Thomas Fox, both grandsons of T. Were, senr. Their uncle, Thomas Were, junr., when a young man had been sent to Holland to learn business and foreign languages. This probably was the reason why Edward Fox was persuaded by his father-in-law, the old Thomas Were, to send his son Thomas for a like purpose, that by so doing he might be better qualified to take a useful part in the concern. So Thomas Fox at the age of fourteen went for three years to Holland and Germany, where he learnt the Dutch, German, and French languages, and so became competent on his return to England to conduct the foreign correspondence. Copies of his letters written in these three languages are preserved in the old letter-books—the copies were made by his own hand.

On his return he came to Wellington, where both he and Stephen Matravers began their business careers, each receiving a salary of 100*l.* for the year preceding the formation of the new partnership—a handsome salary in those days—showing that their services were then of considerable value. It is probable that T. Fox resided with his grandfather at Bulford House.

It appears from the account in an old ledger under the name of Thomas Fox that he began with a capital of 20*l.*, being the amount of a legacy from his uncle, Peter Were, in 1768. Peter Were had been a partner with his father and brother and died at that time.

My grandfather appears to have invested certain small sums in lotteries—these lotteries were probably of the nature of a tontine or an insurance, and for the purpose of

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providing against sickness or old age, Friendly Societies and Life Insurance being almost unknown. In the eighteenth century lotteries were used by the Government to raise money for special purposes, but it was made illegal by Act of Parliament in the latter part of that century.

The following extracts, taken from an old memorandum-book belonging to the Weres, may be of interest as throwing some light on the condition of the poor in Wellington at that period, and showing how the place was visited by Friends travelling on ministerial service, and how arduous their journeys through the country on horseback must have been. And also on other subjects more directly connected with the trade at the time.

OBJECTS FROM WELLINGTON (QUAKER) MEETING. (ABOUT 1745.)

JNO WINTER <i>Trade wever</i>	Aged abt 70 years—and not able labour at his trade of a wever but Sweep Streets, and Labours verry Industrious in what he can gett Imploy.
AME CAPE <i>Trade Spinster</i>	Aged about 30 years—Single woman Earnes abt 3 <i>d.</i> p ^r day when sh hath labour which is now scarce.
WILLM CLARKE <i>Trade Combr</i>	Aged about 45: is a verry Laborious Industrious man where he hath Labour which is now halfe wanting—he hath a wife and fife Children y ^e youngest ab ^t 18 months and none earns mutch.
MARY BURFORD	Desires Ed pool to Speek of her fammilly being Best Known to him.

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- ROGER NOTT** Aged abt 43 : & a wife & Family of seven
Trade Combr Children The eldest a Girdle abt 14 & is
 an Honest man & would labour if work
 was plenty.
- ROB^T NORTHAM** Aged abt 74 and is a worthy honest man
Trade Combr —and would Labour—to ye best of hiss
 ability if he could have Labour which is
 mutch wanting.

VISITS BY FRIENDS TO WELLINGTON. (1748-1756.)

- Samuel Spavold** Shopkeeper in faulkstone Kent lodged at
 our house ye 12 of 7th Mo—1748—By
 Will^m Bidwell at Cullampton—from that
 town—he was directed to attend meet-
 ings as followeth Viz Wellington this
 day 5. Eveng. Ilminster 3^d day Eve or
 4th day.
- Direct** Taunton 5th day Noon. Milverton
 6 day Evening.
- To John Heb-** Minehead 7th day for first day M^o
bard Curryer Meeting.
In Yeovil Bridgewater 2^d day. Grinton 3 day or
 Sidcott :
- To Jonah** Claram 4th day : Portishead 5th day.
Thompson Bristol 6th day.

Meetings ; as appointed by friends for Samuel Spavold.
 Viz—Wellington second day

Ilminster—Third day on bridgewater 2 day—Grinton
 Taunton—5 day 3d day—or Sidcott—Claram
 Milverton—6 day evening —4th day. Portishead—5th
 Minehead—first day day—Bristol—6th day.

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At our house—ye 28 of 12. mo 1749—Henry ffreeman
NB. hee sells fflower of mustard and many other
things—Direct to him—To Henry and Joseph ffree-
man Confectioners on Margate Hill in the Burrow of
Southwark—London.

At our house ye—30: of 4. Mo. 1751 ; Margreat Marsham
of Becles in Suffolk and with Her Eliz. Morly of
Bury: in Suffolk.

At our house ye—28: of 3d Mo. 1756 : John Ransome
—of North Walsham County of Norfolk—who if we
want Corrospondence at Norridge will acct the kind
part to introduce us—
and with him his Companion Edword Higginson of
good Manchester in Huntington Shire.

1756. 'The 25th of 12: Mo. was at our house John Storer
of Nottingham and his Companion Joseph Heath of
Coventry. NB. John Storer and Robert Bukewell of
Nottingham are partners in ye Wooll Stapleing Trade
—and will buy or sell for us at 5 p. pack Comission—
and a low sort of wooll with them is took out and sould
in fleece at abt 12/ or 12/6 p. 'Todd when our common
cuntry price was 6 pence p. pound—and likewise very
Super fine wt pinions are sould with them—and can
be brott down ye Severn—by puting one board at
Stratford one ye Aven—if no better or cheeper port
can be found.

They also say that John Adkins wooll Comber at
Warwick accasonally buyes & sells wooll &c.

1762—ye 9th Mo. Sept—from Exeter yearly Meeting at our
house to our quarterly meeting—with Catherine paytom
—was Timothy Bevington in Worcester—he proposed

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to send a portion of Phissick for ye Convilshon ffitts—
and if I remembr right it was remarked that ye white
part of pecocks Dung powdered & given in Syrup of
piony was also good for sd Disorder.

ITINERARY OF FRIENDS.

About ye 20 of ye 12th Mo Dec^r 1754 ; was at our
house our worthey and esteemed friends—Samuel Hop-
wood—Edmund Pickover and John Alderson. The Two
hath designing for vissiting friends meetings between this
and Lands End (friend Hopwood Therefore advised as
after (viz.) from Exon, &c. :—

Say ye 22^d at Exon of a first day at that Meeting being
their Monday Mor.

Miles is

- 3 miles Third day at Topsham meeting—being the 24
day Mo.
- 3 do. back to Exon. 4th & 5 day being Quarterly
Meeting 25 & 26.
- 12 to Bovey. Sixth day (at Sara Splatts 27.
- 24 to Holberton. Seventh day (at James Kingstons 28.
- 10. to Plymouth. First day ye 29.
- 10. to over the passage and then to Germans } 30 & 31.
2^d day to have a meeting. 3^d day at 10. }
- 6. two Looe third day ye same Evening from thence
1st Mo
- 6. to Liscard—and appoint a meeting there to beginn
@ 12-4 day.
- 14. to Wade Bridge ye 5th day 2.
- 8. to Port Isaac. 3.
- 8. back to Edword Fox^s. 4

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 10. first day Monthly Meeting @ Dennis. | 5. |
| 5. from Dennis Meeting to Austill. There Quarter Meeting is 3 ^d & 4 day | 6. 7. 8. |
| 20. to Penrin. 5 day to have a meeting 6 th day | 9. 10. |
| 20. to pensance—7 th day | 11. |
| 10. first day to Lands End. | 12. |
| 10. Same Evening back to pensance | |
| 3. Second day to Markell Jew or Merry Zion. | 13. |
| 20. Back to penrin—a 3 ^d day | 14. |
| 2. to Falmouth Meeting—a fourth day | 15. |
| 6. to Key meeting a fifth day | 16. |
| 23. to Parr a Sixth day | 17. |
| 8. to Looe ye 7 th day. | 18. |
| and if Looe Meeting is past downwords then have a Meeting | 19. |
| 12. From Looe Back to Plymouth. | |

THE PETITION OF 1754.

A Petition from the Serge Makers of Wellington and neighbouring towns was sent to the House of Commons about the year 1754.

To the Honnorable Knights Citizens and Burgesses in Parliament assembled.

The Humble petition of ye Serge makers Drugatt Makers and principall manufactures of fleece wooll in the Towns of Wellington & Milverton and parts adjacent in ye County of Somersett

HUMBLY SHEWETH

That your petitioners are Very great Sufferers by the fraudulent practice of wooll winders not under Oath And who for that reason with Impunity Conterary to ye

AT WELLINGTON

Statute provided for that purpose ye 23^d of Hen^y ye 8th Chap 17: Make and wind up Bad washd wooll—And in the fleece all the taile and Curse wooll—Deceitfull Locks dirt dung, Pitch Tarr'd Wooll and other dross in order thereby that the fleece may be more weighty, to the deceit of ye Buyer—

Therefore we Humbly Hope for ye Better Support of ye Woollen Manufacture and your petitioners that you will direct Such Amendments to ye aforesaid Act, as Shall in your Wisdom appear Necessary. We humbly Hope so as No fleece wooll shall be wind or made up but by men Sworn for that purpose And in Such manner as may be with out any of ye fore mentioned greivances— And your petitioners Shall Ever Pray &c.

STAMPS ON GOODS (AS USED 1754).

It was customary in those days to affix a stamp to the goods that were sent out. And the following is a description of the stamps that were used for this purpose.

one our Best yard wides called Royalls	{	Clovey G O: Henry Blagdon Tho Were & Sons.	24.
Second Royalls or Narrow Best	{	Clovey G O : Henry Blagdon. <i>reverse</i> Tho good	23.
WRE	{	1. Mermaid Geo. Osmond. <i>reverse</i> Tho Were & Sons	22.
Best Sorts Stampt the same as ye WRE & are			

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

Best Bastards.	{	Clovey G O: Henry Blagdon. <i>reverse</i> Tho Were & Sons 22.
Little Bastards.	{	1 foot S F. Sam Burridg. Tiverton. <i>reverse</i> Tho Were & Sons 22 G. O
Little Bastards to Light	{	1 Tack G O: Theodore Wilson <i>reverse</i> Tho good 22.
Uytshot N. 45 also the same as Light peces . . .	{	1. Tack. Theodore Wilson. 22.
Thirds.	{	2: Mermaids G. O. <i>reverse</i> 21½.

FOREIGN ADDRESSES (ABOUT THE YEAR 1754).

Names of Merchants—& ye Circumflex of ye same house.

Guglielmo Finzi, in Mantoua.	Sacrestani & Orioli in Viterbo.
Donato Isaia Guastalla, Mantoua.	Steffano Ciamaglia in Viterbo.
Israel Bassano, Mantoua.	Vincenzo Danielli in Viterbo.
Jacob Bassano, in Mantoua.	Fran ^{co} Ant ^o Gentili & Fratelli in Viterbo.
Girolamo Fontana, in Velletri.	by Geo Fox
Fran ^{co} Antonio Gentilli in Viterbo.	Sig ^r Gio Batta Rossi—Jan-

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- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>uary of ye Late Sig^r John
Batta-Rossi, Merch^t in
Naples.</p> <p>Antonio & Pietro Lignola,
in Naples.</p> <p>Gennaro Piarelli, in Naples.</p> <p>Gio: Batta Rossi, in Naples.</p> <p>Nicola Sorrentino } in
Quondam Matteo } Naples.</p> <p>by Geo. Fox direct to his
friend in Naples. To—
See^r Gennara Batta Rossi,
January: of the late Sig^r
John Batta Rossi Mer-
chant in Naples.</p> <p>Lezy & Bechelti, in Foligno.</p> <p>Eredi de Ginuario Solari,
Foligno.</p> <p>Giesuppe Barugi, in Foligno.</p> <p>Alexandro Serachi, in Fo-
ligno.</p> <p>Fani & Lodovici, in Foligno.</p> <p>Cherubini & Piccinini, in
Foligno</p> <p>Abel Mitz & Sons, in Bazle.</p> <p>Philip & Henry Stern, in
Bazle.</p> <p>Jacob Brandmuller, in Bazle.</p> <p>Frederick Euler, in Bazle.</p> <p>Jean Jacques Frey, in Bazle.</p> <p>Jean George Karper, in
Bazle.</p> <p>Charles Lombardo, Leg-
horn.</p> | <p>David de Pinto, Jew, Leg-
horn.</p> <p>Cornelius Pierdei, Leghorn.</p> <p>Abraham De Costa, Leg-
horn.</p> <p>To: Saint John at Tours in
Tourain in france. See
ye Map in 247 degree.</p> <p>Gio Ant^o Bardi Rossaro, in
Rome.</p> <p>Eredi di Defonda Zonca,
in Rome.</p> <p>Angeli di Angelo, in Rome.</p> <p>Isaac Ascarelli, in Rome.</p> <p>Angello Morelli, in Rome.</p> <p>Antonio Manuelli, in Rome.</p> <p>Eredi di Francisco Caris-
simo, Rome.</p> <p>Gio Batta Surchi, in Albano.</p> <p>Ambro Gaeto Bonaini, in
Leghorn.</p> <p>Antonio Damiani, Venitian,
in Leghorn.</p> <p>Pietro Petrucci, in Turin.</p> <p>Pulei & Moresti, in Turin.</p> <p>Trobalza & Lepri Seracchi,
in Bevagna.</p> <p>Bartholomew Rota, in Be-
vagna.</p> <p>Moscone & Perotti, in Ve-
rone.</p> <p>Joseph Lamande, in Geneva.</p> <p>Jean Mallet & Naville,
Geneva.</p> |
|--|--|

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

Chas. Lombard Neveux, Geneva.	Bruch & Oldenburgh, Leg- horne.
Boyer & Martin, Geneva.	Ragueneau Marcha & Cham- ier, Leghorn.
Jean Batta } Mich ^l Jager } in Venice.	Gunter Ludwig Scuhlman, Altona.
Benoit Herman, in Venice.	Matthias Matthei Sen ^r , Hamburgh.
g. William Konig, in Leip- sick.	Gustav Lutken, Hamburgh.
'By our Books we suppose	freres Vieusseux Lagier & Comy Nice le.
Peter Langlois & Sons, Leghorne.	one Mercht Katenkamps bill.
g: Jacob Frid ^k Schultz Bre- men.	Frider Wilhelm Strichl- mann in Antona.
Allexandra Sella, Leghorne.	

POSTAGE (1754).

The Rates of Postage for letters to London and the Continent are as follows :—

By the : act : from Wellington to London	1s 4d. p. ounce
From London to Holland	3s 4d. p. ounce
From Wellington to Bremen	5s 4d. p. ounce
or to any part of Germany or Italy ye same	
From Wellington to Hambro	4s 8d. p. ounce

N.B. We paid with a Single Letter to bremen 1s 4d.
do to Hamborough 1s 2d.

In 1755 the Postmaster-General issued a notice of the inauguration of a service of Packets to carry the

AT WELLINGTON

mails between Falmouth and the West Indies and also to the American Colonies, of which the following is a copy.¹

GENNERALL POST OFFICE, LONDON, *octob^r 24, 1755.*

Where as a Number of packet Boats are provided and established at falmouth for Carrying one a regular monthly Correspondence between these Kingdoms and his Majestys Illands in ye West Indies and also to and from the severall Colonies on the Continent of North America.

Publick Notice is hereby given to all merchants and others whom it may Concern that Letters and Packets for ye said Illands, and Colonies on ye Continent of North america will be taken in and receved at this office from ye Date here of upon their being pd for after ye Rates Setled by act of parlament as undermentioned :—

Viz. from London to the	for a Single Letter	1s 6d.
Islands of Barbadoes, An-	a double Letter	3s 0d.
tegoa, Montserrat, Nevis—	a treble Letter	4s 6d.
St. Christophers—Jamaica.	ann ounce	6s 0d.

Foreign Postage to the West Indies.

From London to New York,	for a Single Letter	1s 0d.
New England, Virginia,	a double Letter	2s 0d.
Maryland, and all the other	A treble Letter	3s 0d.
Colonies on the Continent	Ann ounce	4s 0d.
of North America.		

The first maile of letters for the severall Islands in the west Indies will be made up and Dispatched from this office upon Satterday ye 8th day of November Next and

¹ I well remember these packets in Falmouth Harbour in 1846 and 1849. They were full-rigged brigs.—J. H. F.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

be Continued one the first Satterday of Every month following.

The first maile of Letters by ye way of New york for ye Severall Colonies on the Continent of North america will be made up and Dispatched from this office upon the 15: of November Next and so to be Continued one the second Satterday of Every month threw out ye year.

The full postage of the above Letters and packets must be paid at the time of their delivery into this office: or at the receveing houses in Town and all such as are putt into ye severall post houses in Brittain and Ireland Most over and above the sd Rates pay also the full Inland Postage to London—without which they Cannot be forwarded from hence.

By Command of ye Postmaster Gennerall.

George Sheloocke

Secretary.

In 1756 the total assets of the firm were 9380/, and the partners' capital:—

Thomas Were, senr.	} Brothers	{	£3006	6	1
Robert Were			1444	12	11
Thomas Were, jnr.	} Sons of	{	1502	18	2
Peter Were			320		
Nicholas Were			118	15	0
			<u>£6392</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>

The Tucking Mill and Rack Close (Tone) were valued at 500/.

This is the old tucking or fulling mill worked by the Weres for many years anterior to this date, and where at the present time, 1914, Fox Brothers & Co., Ltd., have their finishing mills and dye works.

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The following are the particulars of the route by which goods were carried from Wellington to London :—

Carridge to London by Way of Bristoll.

Goods from London p^r Barge Carridge to be Delivered to the Care of Mr. Benjamin Burnley, Near Gerrards Hall Inn in Bossing Lane Near Bread Street London, who hath the care of all goods to be forwarded by this Conveyance to Bristoll, all goods is usually delivered there in about Twelve days, to the care of Richard Giles, at the Lamb without Lawfords Gate Bristoll, the Carridge is at 3 shillings p^r Hundred,—the above is Carried by Land to Newberry, and from thence by water to Reading, so on to London if you should want any thing to be sent this way, must order the Carrier to Deliver the goods to said Richard Giles without Lawfords Gate, and he will give a Recept for the same, to be safely delivered at Benjamin Burnleys aforesaid, of Joe Were.

NB. bath Stone Cost abt 7/6 a Tone

Bath Stone : ruff at Bath—and 7/6 a Tonn freight from thence to Watchett.

1759. A PETITION sent to two of the Wellington Justices on behalf of two labouring men who had been sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour for improper behaviour before the Justices.

Coppy of a Petition—When William Bennett & William Perry were committed by Justice Carew & Justice Camplin for 3 months absolute—as Drawn by Wm Prockter Thomas.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

To ye Worshipfull Thomas Carew Esq^r & The Rev^d Mr Thomas Camplin Docktor of Laws. Two of His Majesty's Justices of ye Peace for the County of Somerset.

The humble Petition of William Bennett and William Perry Labourers & prisoners now confined in ye Costody of Geo Strong Keeper of his Majestys Goal in Taunton.

Humbly shew. that your Petitioners are truly Sencible of 'Their great folly and offence in behaveing amiss and Irreverently before your Worships: one ye 17 day of this Ins^t July, for which they most Justly stand committed to hard Labour for Three months. They most Humbly & heartily repent of their sd offence and with all Humility do Implore and Beg for forgiveness.

and Humbly Pray that one their complying with your Worships orders to them one ye Day above mentioned they may be released from their confinement and your Petitioners shall Ever Pray &c.

Signed Will^m Perry

Will^m Bennet.

Taunton Goall July 24—1759

one ye other Side ye Leif
Somerset to witt

to ye Worshipfull Tho^s Carew Esq^r & ye Rev^d Dockter Tho^s Camplin Two of his majesties Justices of ye peace for ye sd County We the Parrishoners and inhabitants of Wellington in ye County aforesd do hereby Certifie to your Worships: that Will^m Bennett & Will^m Perry Labourers: of our sd Parrish and now confined in Taunton Goale are Laborious honest Industrious people that they are sorry y^t ye sd Bennett & perry should offend your Worships—and that if your sd Worships will comply

AT WELLINGTON

with ye Petition of ye sd offenders you will oblige us
& ye Rest of sd Parrishoners. Dated ye 24 of July 1759.

W. J.

W. A. T.

H. L.

In the year 1759 the total assets of the business amounted to 11,934*l.*, and the partners' capital as under :—

Thomas Were, senr.	} Brothers . . .	{	£3450	12	0
Robert Were			1903	6	6
Thomas Were, jnr.	} Sons of Thomas Were, senr.	{	1882	1	2
Peter Were			663	9	9
Nicholas Were			471	4	10
William Were			310	1	4
					£8689

The following loans are shown in the ledger :—

Widdo Collier succeeds Benjamin Collier. decd.	
loan	£620
Robert Were's daughter Betty Were	£130
Thomas Were's daughter Betty Were	£22
(Betty Were married her first cousin. The brothers Robert and Thomas Were were her father and father-in-law.)	

1760.

Sister Matravers (wife of William Matravers and mother of Stephen Matravers)	£105
Sister Anna Fox (wife of Edward Fox, of Wade-bridge, and mother of Thomas Fox)	101
Sister Mary Fox (wife of George Croker Fox, of Falmouth)	105
'They were daughters of Thomas Were, the elder.	

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

Stephen Matravers and Thomas Fox became partners in 1772.

Taken out by the partners for their separate use :—

Thomas Were, senr	.	.	£111	0	0
			221	8	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Robert Were	.	.	201	19	5
Thomas Were, jnr	.	.	284	15	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Peter Were	.	.	23	11	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nicholas Were	.	.	29	16	0
William Were	.	.	3	16	0
			<u>£868</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9$\frac{1}{4}$</u>

And in 1767

Thomas Were	.	.	£348	15	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Robert Were	.	.	152	9	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thomas Were, jnr	.	.	118	11	5
Peter Were	.	.	72	0	3
Nicholas Were	.	.	76	18	11
William Were	.	.	17	19	6
			<u>£786</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>5</u>

Thomas Were and Sons were agents for the Sun Fire Office.

At this time there appears to have been a fire at Uffculme, eight miles from Wellington.

The two following affidavits made before Justices of the Peace show how in those days, when the expense of sending a valuer from London would have been very great, claims for loss by fire were made, and the kind of evidence the Fire Insurance Company required to prove the claim.

AT WELLINGTON

1762. FIRE AT UFFCULME AND SUN FIRE OFFICE.

*The Bond on a Common Stamp as Rec'd
from ye office Jan^y 1763.*

Thomas Marsh of Uffculm in ye County of Devon Sergemaker maketh Oath and saith that on or about the Twenty sixth day of Novem^t last past an accidental Fire happened in or near his Stables By which Fire he this Deponent sustained the Loss and Damage of Part of his Buildings and Household goods Utensills and stock therein as contained and specified in an Inventory of said goods and delivered unto the Sun Fire Office London.

And this Deponent further saith that the said Inventory to the best of this Deponents knowledge and Belief contains a true full and faithfull account of his said Buildings and Household goods Utensills and Stock, as were this Deponents own proper goods and Chattells, and all which were Burned lost or damaged by said Fire.

And lastly this Deponent further saith—that the said Building and goods were not insured in any other office at ye time the said Fire happened, and that his Loss occasioned thereby amounts to the sum of One Hundred and Thirty Four Pounds and Upwards.

This Afferdavit taken before	}	
us. Magistries, Justices of		T. Markes, Esqr.
ye peace for ye County		C. Drewe, Esqr.
abovesd		

to be wrote on ye Back of ye above Bond

We the Minister Church Wardens and other Principal Inhabitants of the Town of Uffculm in the County of Devon, do hereby Certifie, that on or about the Twenty sixth day of Novem^r last past an accidentall

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

Fire happened in or Near the Stables of the within named Thomas Marsh—By which Fire he sustained the loss and Damage of part of his Buildings, Household goods Utensills and Stock, and we do know and verily believe that the said Thomas Marsh is an Honest man and that he really and by Misfortune without any Fraud or evil Practice hath sustained by the said Fire a loss to the amount of the sum mentioned in the within affidavit.

Winsor.

E. Manley.

Butcher.

William Byrd of Ufculm in the County of Devon (being one of the people called Quakers) maketh solemn Affirmation that on the Second day of the month called July last an accidental Fire happened in his Buildings in the Parish of Uffculm aforesaid by which Fire he this Affirmant sustained a Loss and Damage in his said Buildings Household Goods and Stock in Trade to the amount of Six Hundred Ninety five Pounds three shillings and three Pence Specified in an Inventory which he this said Affirmant hath sent to the Sun Fire Office in London and Signed by this Affirmant And this Affirmant further saith that the said Estimate or Inventory contains a true and Faithful account of the Damage sustained in the said Buildings Household Goods and Stock in Trade were this Affirmants own proper Goods and Chattels and all which were burnt or Damaged by the said Fire, And this Affirmant further saith that the Damage done to the said Buildings Household Goods and Stock in Trade as contained and Specified in the said Estimate or Inventory is not rated or valued at more than what is necessary to put them in the like Condition of Repare they were in before the Fire happened.

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And lastly this Affirmant saith that the Buildings Household Goods and Stock in Trade were not insured in any other Office at the Time the said Fire happened and that his loss and Damage settled amount to the Sum of Five Hundred and Eight Pounds and 13 Shillings.

Grange 26th August : 1762 the Above William Byrd solemnly affirmed before me (one of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for the said County) the Truth of the Above.

F. D.

One of his Majestys Justice of Peace.

We the Minister Churchwardens and Other principal Inhabitants of Uffculm do hereby Certifie that on the Second Day of the Month called July last past an Accidental Fire happened in William Byrds Buildings in the Parish of Uffculm aforesaid by which Fire the above named William Byrd sustained a Loss and Damage in his Buildings Household Goods and Stock in Trade and we do know or verily Believe that the said William Byrd is an Honest Man and of Good Repute and that he really and by misfortune without any Fraud or evil Practice has sustained by the said Fire the Loss and Damage Five hundred eight pounds Thirteen Shillings.

J. Winsor, *Vicar.*

E. M. {
N. W. } *Churchwardens.*

G. Green.

R. C.

J. C.

H. E.

W. S.

R. S.

S. D.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

a receipt for removall of goods as over Leaf

Wellington Febr 4: 1763. rec'd of Tho^s Were & Sons agents for ye Sunfire Office London on five pounds and Nine Shillings for damages and Loss Sustained on or ab^t 4 or 6 day of N^r— last in removing my goods & paying for assistance to save them from ye fire of T. M. house, Near or adjoyning, and it is my full demand for s^d Damages as witness my Hand. £5 9 0. 1. %

J. D.

the Letter of Attorney to Impower T. Giles to Receive ye money of ye Insureers is in ye Sunfire office Book.

The serge manufacturers of Somerset and Devon imported wool from Ireland ; that used in Somersetshire was mostly landed at Minehead, and Irish labourers also found their way into the district and obtained employment in the wool industry. Some of these men, having learned the business, returned to Ireland and introduced the manufacture into the South ; but the English Government, in order to destroy the competition with English manufacturers, put on a prohibitive export duty on goods manufactured in Ireland, and killed the industry.

Thomas Were & Sons appear, from time to time, to have imported wine from Oporto and Lisbon.

Some of these wines were distributed among the households of the Were family, and some were sold to the neighbouring gentry.

The following account of transactions with Messrs. Bovett and Bridge, surgeons, residing in Wellington, shows how some of the imported wine was disposed of. Dr. Franklin Bridge, a son of the Dr. Bridge here mentioned, had some old Port wine in his cellar of

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which he was very proud. I have often heard him speak of it, and it is quite possible that some of it may have been the very wine mentioned in this account.

BOVETT & BRIDGE.

<i>Debit.</i>		<i>Credit.</i>	
	<i>£ s d.</i>		<i>£ s d.</i>
1777		1777	
Decr. To 1 pipe red Port Wine,		July 2. By amount of Robt.	
Cost & Charges... ..	34 14 5	Were's Bill	16 6 7
		Dec. 25. By amount of Thos.	
		Were's do... ..	9 7 6
		Entered Separate	25 14 1
		1778	
		Apr. 14. By 185lbs. Woall at 8½d	6 11 0
			32 5 1
		By Cash received	2 9 4
	<u>34 14 5</u>		<u>34 14 5</u>

1770. In an account with George Croker Fox, of Falmouth, it appears that Sister Mary, his wife, purchased a pillion at Wellington for 4*l.* 4*s.*

And the account is credited

For mahogany chairs for Father £2 7 0
and for lemon juice for Father 4 6
also sweet meats for Father 17 8

This reference to the purchase of a pillion indicates that George Croker and Mary Fox must have been travelling on horseback from Falmouth—either on a visit to their relations at Wellington, or possibly on their way to London. The journey from Falmouth to London would have occupied at least eight days—more likely ten or twelve. It is probable that they were accompanied by a servant on horseback, who would also carry the luggage.

William Cookworthy of Plymouth was the discoverer

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

of the material for the manufacture of porcelain or china, and the first English maker. He was a well-known minister in the Society of Friends and a brother-in-law of Thomas Were, senr., having married a daughter of Peter Berry, of Wellington.

It appears from an account in one of the Were's ledgers that Thomas Were & Sons purchased a share in the Plymouth Porcelain Company for 140*l.*, which they afterwards sold to the Bristol China Company for 75*l.* I am informed on good authority that this is the first authentic information that has yet been obtained of the date of the beginning of the manufacture of this china in Bristol, and also that it was not previously known that the work had been carried on at Truro as well as at Plymouth.

There was living on a farm near Truro a family called Stephens; one of them, of the name of William, was an artist, employed by Cookworthy to paint his china. As Truro is rather nearer to the china clay than Plymouth, this circumstance may account for the fact of the work having been carried on in both places. The china that has William Stephens' mark on it is of enhanced value.

Mrs. Stephens, of Falmouth, has a tea service of Plymouth or Bristol china painted by William Stephens, each piece having the monogram J. A. S.—John and Ann Stephens. This John Stephens was the brother of William, who gave him the set; and was the grandfather of Mrs. Stephens' late husband John. The set is of very great value.

A copy of the account with William Cookworthy in the Were ledger is here inserted.

AT WELLINGTON

WILLIAM COOKWORTHY—on the China affair—or Plymouth Porcelain Company.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Creditor.</i>	£	s.	d.
To Bill Remitted on China affair at Bristol	30	0	0	1770. Sept. 29. By Sale our Share to the pro- prietors of the New China manufacturers at Bristol— where the work is intended to be carried on, for... ..	75	0	0
To ditto by order paid Tho. Noankes	5	0	0	By Sufferings on Carrying on at Plymouth	30	0	0
1767. Nov. 11th. To Bill on China affairs at Truro—or—plymouth to Wm. Cookworthy	15	0	0	By Sufferings at Bristol on first out set... ..	35	0	0
1768. Febry. 27th. To Bill to Chas. Fox our agent —at—30—days	50	0	0				
July 15th. To Bill to William Philips— at—30—days	15	0	0				
1767. July 8th. To Bill to James Fox on Hagues at 30 days	15	0	0				
1769. Octr. 18th. To Bill to Chas. Fox, ditto ...	95	0	0				
1770. Febry. 24th. To Bill to Chas. Fox, do. ...	15	0	0				
Sept. 29th. To Bill to Chas. Fox, do. ...	15	0	0				
	140	0	0				
					140	0	0

NOTE.—Soon after the rise of the Society of Friends a meeting was established in London called the 'Meeting for Sufferings,' the object being to assist those friends who were suffering for the Truth, whether through imprisonment or through the seizure of their goods. This will explain the use of the word 'Sufferings' in the above account—meaning pecuniary loss.

When travelling was so dangerous, on account of the roads being infested by highwaymen, it was found necessary to devise means whereby the inhabitants should be stimulated to capture the thieves, and it was enacted by Parliament in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and George II. that under certain conditions the loss would fall on the Hundred.

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Particulars of the methods of procedure to be adopted by the victims of the robbery are here given, as extracted from one of the old books:—

The following are the particulars, necessary to be observed in Case of a Robbery in order to recover upon the Hundred : as furnished to Council to Dan^l Hamilton Esq^r : Receiver for Devonshr.

By 27th Eliz. Ch. 13 : 5 : 1^t. The Person rob'd shall with as much convenient Speed, as may be, give Notice & Intelligence thereof unto some of the Inhabitants, of some Town, Village or Hamlet near unto the place where any such Robbery shall be committed : and

By 8th Geo. 2nd. Ch. 16 : 5 : 1^t. No person shall recover against the Hundred unless he shall, besides the Notice already required (viz the above Notice to some of the Inhabitants) with as much convenient speed as may be after the Robbery, committed, give notice thereof to one of the Constables, of the Hundred, or to some Constable, House-holder, Head borough, or Tythingman, of some Town, Parish, at Tything, near the place, wherein such Robbery, shall happen, or shall leave Notice in writing, at the Dwelling House of such Constable &c : describing in such Notice, so far as the Circumstances of the Case will admit, the Felons & the Time, and Place of the Robbery—And also, shall within Twenty Days, cause Notice to be given, in the London gazette, therein likewise describing the Felons, and the Time and Place of the Robbery, together with the Goods, and effects whereof he was Robb'd.

By 27th Eliz. Ch. 13 : 5 : 1^t. And he shall before he brings any Action against the Hundred, within

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Twenty Days, before such Action brought, be examined upon Oath, before some Justice of the peace, of the County in or near the Hundred whither He or They know the Parties who committed the Robbery, or any of them. And if He doo, he shall before the Action, be bound-over by the Justice to prosecute the Robber.

By 8th Geo. 2. Ch. 16. S. 1st & 2^d. He must also go before the Chief Clerk, or Secondary, or the Filazer of the County, or the Sheriff of the County, and enter into an Hundred Pound Bond, to the High Constable of the Hundred with two sufficient Sureties to pay him Costs, if he (the Prosecutor) shall be Cast, and Judgment be against him. The Bond shall be delivered to the High Constable.

Sect. 3d. If any of the Felons be apprehended within 40 days next after Notice in the Gazette the Hundred shall not be chargeable.

All this being done & 40 days expired from the day of Publication in the Gazette, and none of the offenders being apprehended, and a whole year not being expired from the time of the Robbery committed (for the Action can't be brought after a year from the Time of the Robbery) Then the Action may be brought against the Hundred: And

By 8th Geo. 2nd. S. 4. The process shall be served on the High Constable only, who is to give public Notice, in one of the Principal Towns, on the next Market day, and if no Market Town, then in a Parish Church, on the next Sunday, and he shall enter an appearance, and defend the Action, and on the Tryal any Inhabitant, may be a Witness. The person travelling and Rob'd must be on the Highway, and

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

in a public Road. He must not be travelling on a Sunday, but if he is going to Church on a Sunday, the Hundred is Liable. It must be committed in the Day time, i.e. so much day light, that you may see a mans Face so as the Robber may be known.

22nd Geo. 2d. Ch. 24: No Person shall recover against the Hundred more than the Value of Two Hundred pounds, unless two at least be in Company to attest the Truth of the Robbery.

By the Land tax Acts, no Receiver shall recover against the Hundred unless the Persons, carrying the Money be three in Company.

1772. Were & Co. subscribed 4 guineas to the Exeter Hospital.

We now come to the time when my grandfather, Thomas Fox, became connected with the business, and subjoined are the particulars of the first account he had in the ledgers of the firm.

1768.

Dec. 25th. By a Legacy on Brother Peter's

will	£20 0 0
----------------	---------

1769. To one years Interest	16 0
---------------------------------------	------

1769.	20 16 0
-------	---------

Dec. 25th. To Cash put into Trade	14 4 0
---	--------

1770.	35 0 0
-------	--------

Dec. 25. One years Interest	1 8 0
---------------------------------------	-------

Paid $\frac{1}{4}$ Lottery ticket 3 10 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
---	----------------------

	32 17 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
--	-----------------------

Dec. 29. To Cash put into Trade	22 2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
---	-----------------------

	55 0 0
--	--------

We gave our joint note for this.

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1771.

Dec. 25th.	One years interest	.	2	4	0			
	To $\frac{1}{4}$ of blank lottery							
	ticket	3	8	7 $\frac{1}{2}$				
	do.	3	8	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	17	3	
					4	13	3	4 13 3
								50 6 9
	By Years Salary	.	.	.	100	0	0	
					<u>£150</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	

Particulars of the Trade accounts will be found in Appendix F.

They purchased Spanish and Florida Indigo from London, and wool from Kent, Gloucestershire and Hampshire.

Joseph Moore, of Salisbury, a Friend who married a daughter of Peter Berry, sold to the Weres serges and flannels, showing that serges were made at Salisbury at that time. This confirms the facts given in Miss Silberrad's novel, *Sampson Rideout*.

The Weres had some business transactions with Fox, Phillips, and Fox, merchants of Falmouth.

On the first day of the year 1772, a new partnership was entered into, the new firm taking the name of Weres and Co., Thomas Were, senr, having retired from the business, leaving in it the sum of 3300*l.* on loan at five per cent.

The names of the partners and their respective capitals are here given :—

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Robert Were, brother of Thomas	£4919	16	8½
Thomas Were, jnr.	sons of T. Were	{	5300 0 0
Nicholas Were			
William Were			
Stephen Matravers	Grandsons of T. Were, senr.	{	5755 8 8
Thomas Fox			
			3158 15 6¼
			1020 0 0
			150 0 0
£20,303 15 10¾			

1774. This was the year of the revolt of the American Colonies, and when Warren Hastings was appointed the first English Governor General of India.

There was credited by hops at Worcester and Canterbury 200*l.*; this was probably a speculation.

The Great Bell, as it was called, purchased for 2*l.* 10*s.*; it is probably the bell still in use.

1776. An account was opened with the Executors of Thomas Were, senr.

1777. In this year, Robert Were, one of Thomas Fox's uncles, died. He had long been a partner in the business.

1778. A Frenchman appears to have kept a boarding-school at Clifton, to which two of the young Weres were sent. The following account shows the cost of the schooling. It is somewhat remarkable that in those days Friends should have sent their sons to a boarding-school belonging to a Frenchman.

AT WELLINGTON

PIERRE GAUTIER (*French Master*). BRISTOL.

<i>Debit.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>Credit.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
1778.		1778.	
March 4th. To our Dft. at 10 days on Were & Bush	19 19 0	Febry. 21. By Note of Robt. Were's Schooling and Board Exes. to this day for a half a year ...	19 19 0
Octr. 10. To our Dft. No. 2178	<u>46 3 6</u>	Aug. 28. (Entd. to Trust Account) By Note of Robt. Were's Board, etc.	22 9 0
		By Note of T. Were jr. Board, etc.	23 14 6
		(Entered to $\frac{1}{2}$ yr. Trust Account)	<u>46 3 6</u>
1779.		1779.	
April 7. To our Dft. No. 2344	41 16 6	Jan. 22nd. By Note of Thos. Were's $\frac{1}{2}$ yr. Board, etc.	20 19 3
Sept. 14. To our Dft. No. 2469	<u>41 10 6</u>	Febry. 28. By ditto of Robt. Were	20 17 3
		(Entered to Trust a/c)	<u>41 16 6</u>
		July 22nd. By Note of Thos. Were $\frac{1}{2}$ yr. Board, etc.	22 5 11
		Aug. 29. By Note of Robt. Were ditto	19 4 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
		(Entd. to Trust Acct.)	<u>41 10 8$\frac{1}{2}$</u>
1780.		1780.	
Feb. 5th. To our Dft. No. 2560	<u>35 2 6</u>	Jan. 22nd. By Note of Thos. Were, junr. $\frac{1}{2}$ yr. Board etc.	21 6 10
		By Note of Robt. Were 4 months, do.	13 15 8
			<u>35 2 6</u>

1778. The first Fire Engine was purchased for 25*l*.

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ACCOUNT OF LOTTERY TICKETS.

Thomas Fox to Lottery Tickets.

<i>Debit.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>Per Contra.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
1779. Nov. 24.		1779. Nov. 24.	
To Lottery Tickets	14 0 6	By Cash received	14 0 6
To 4 Irish Tickets cost... ..	19 2 0	By a Prize of £20 sold for ...	20 0 0
To examining 5 Ticketts	0 2 6	By 2 Irish Prizes £10 each	
1780. Oct.		sold for	14 18 0
To 1 State Ticket cost	13 1 6		
To examining	0 0 6		
1781. Febr. 14.		1781. Jan. 22.	
To 2 Irish Ticketts, No. 6144,		By 1 Prize of £20 sold for ...	19 14 0
6145	9 12 0	Dec. 11.	
Octr. 25.		By 1 Prize £20 sold for ...	19 12 0
To 1 State Lottery Ticket,			74 4 0
No. 14985	14 11 6	By Balance settled	2 2
Dec. 11.			
To 1 Ditto, No. 16800	19 16 0		
	<u>76 6 0</u>		<u>£76 6 0</u>

1780. At the end of the year, in consequence of the retirement of Thomas Were the younger on account of ill health, a new partnership agreement was entered into for three years. The shares were allotted as follows :

Nicholas Were	6s. 6d. in 20s.
William Were	4s. 0d. „
Stephen Matravers	4s. 9d. „
Thomas Fox	4s. 9d. „
	<u>20s. 0d.</u>

In this year war was declared between England and Holland. We were also at war with America, France, and Spain.

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An account appears in the ledger with John Cadbury of Exeter, an ancestor of the Cadburys of Birmingham.

1781. It appears that Weres & Co. contributed 63*l.* or sixty guineas to a fund being raised at Falmouth for the aid of Dutch prisoners incarcerated there.

ACCOUNT WITH GEO. CROKER FOX OF FALMOUTH.

1781. June 19th.	£ s. d.	<i>Contra.</i>	£ s. d.
To Cash paid George Reynolds Commissary of the Dutch Prisoners	63 0 0	1781. July 10th.	
		By Bill No. 2822	63 0 0

It was no doubt in consequence of the long business connection between the Weres and the Dutch merchants that such a donation, so liberal for those days, was made towards the support of the Dutch prisoners.¹

1782. At this time the serge trade was in a very depressed state, and the manufacturers were losing money. In consequence of this state of things, a meeting of the serge-makers was arranged to be held at Maidendown near Wellington on the main road to the West, and a Combine was entered into. (For full particulars see Appendix E.)

The reference in that Appendix to the delivery of the goods at Topsham for the Spring and Autumn Fleets is explained by the fact that the English Channel was unsafe, and that the fleets sailed under convoy. The Dutch Fleets, as they were called, were composed of English vessels, and bore that name because they sailed to Dutch ports, that country being the great emporium for goods for the Continent.

¹ I have made various enquiries at Falmouth in regard to these Dutch prisoners, and as to any recollection of their having been interned there, but without any success, although it is well known that many French prisoners had been landed and kept at Falmouth.—J. H. F.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

1783. The manufacture of Long Ells was introduced about this time and for many years subsequently formed the principal output of the business, taking the place of the Continental trade, which had greatly fallen off. These serges were 24 yards in length, 31 inches in width, and weighed 12 lbs., and they were mostly dyed scarlet and orange. They were for the China market, and were made for the East India Company, who gave out an annual contract.

Annexed is a copy of one of the forms of tender, and also the particulars of the quantity of pieces allotted to the various serge-makers of Somerset and Devon.

East-India House,
28th May, 1818.

SIR,

I HAVE the orders of the COMMITTEE of BUYING and WAREHOUSES of the EAST-INDIA COMPANY to acquaint you, that they are ready to consider Tenders for supplying *Green Forrel Long Ells*.

2. The quality of the Long Ells must be equal to the Company's standard sample A. Each Long Ell must be of the full length of 24 yards, and be full 31 inches wide; and weigh 12 lbs. Intending Contractors will please to take especial notice, that these conditions will be strictly required to be fulfilled. Positive orders are given to the Company's Overlookers not to pass any Long Ells of inferior wool, or worse weaving, than the standard sample.

3. The deliveries are to commence on the 2d day of November, and end on the 31st December, 1818, in proportions, so that one half shall be delivered on or before the last day of November, and the remaining half

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on or before the last day of December 1818; but should it suit the Manufacturers to make an earlier delivery, the Warehouse will be open to receive the Long Ells upon and after the 1st day of October 1818, but none will be received before that day.

4. Payment will be made upon the last Thursday in January 1819, provided the whole number of Long Ells contracted for shall have been delivered according to Article 3. Rejected Long Ells must be immediately taken away from the Company's Warehouse, and be replaced without delay with Long Ells of standard quality; but in case of delay in making good the full delivery of approved Long Ells, it shall be at the option of the Company, at any time after the last day of December 1818, to close the account, and to buy the deficient Long Ells elsewhere, debiting the Contractor with the extra price, if any, and deducting the same from any monies growing due.

5. Long Ells which may be found by the Dyer, at the time of washing, or in preparation, to be defective, shall be immediately replaced, and the Maker shall pay the amount of all charges incurred: and as it often happens that Long Ells prove unfit for consignment to China upon their final inspection in the Company's Warehouse, after being dyed, owing to some original defect in the Cloths not before discoverable, it is hereby made a condition, that the Maker shall repay to the Company the cost of such Long Ells with all charges, such defective Long Ells being after payment returned to the Maker.

6. The Forrel of the Fag-end must be put three inches within the extreme end of the Ell; and the stripes must be dyed with Indigo and not with Log Wood.

7. The Cloth-Drawers having made complaint that

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

some of the Long Ells are foul, and full of straws and cotton or linen burls, which do not shew themselves until after the Goods are dyed; the Committee give notice that such Long Ells will be returned to the Manufacturers, who will also be charged with the expenses occasioned by this neglect.

8. It is stipulated in article 5, that rejected Long Ells shall be immediately replaced; but it is made a further condition, that in case of a large proportion being objectionable, it shall be at the option of the Company to reject the whole parcel.

9. Very material inconvenience having been experienced from the imperfect manner in which the Long Ells are marked, it is required that each Maker shall cause his Name to be worked into the Long Ell in a very distinct manner, with LINEN or COTTON THREAD. The Committee will return to the Factors any Long Ells which may be found defective in this point.

10. Each Maker must name an Agent in London to deliver the Long Ells, to take back the rejected Goods, to make out bills of parcels, and to do all other needful business.

11. If the Maker should not find it convenient to receive the payments himself, he must give a regular power of attorney to some person to receive the same.

12. All Long Ells which may be delivered at the Company's Warehouse in consequence of the present circular, will lie at the Company's risk, in case of the calamity of fire.

13. No charge to be made for carriage to London, nor for cartage to the Warehouse.

14. All Tenders must be delivered at the Office of the Committee of Buying and Warehouses in the India

AT WELLINGTON

House, before Eleven of the Clock of Wednesday the 17th June 1818. Many persons not having been careful to send in their offers on or before the day appointed, it is positively ordered that no Tender be received after the above-mentioned day and hour.

15. It is indispensably necessary that all offers should be clear as to quantity and price; and the accompanying Form must be adhered to, for which purpose you will please to copy the letter exactly, and sign the same; and you will write on the outside of your letter “*Tender for Long Ells.*”

I am,

SIR,

Your humble servant,

June 1818.

SIR,

IN answer to your letter of the 28th May, 1818, I hereby offer to supply the East-India Company with Long Ells, on the terms therein mentioned, at the price of shillings and pence each, subject to the reduction of two shillings upon each Long Ell which may be classed to letter B.

My residence is distinctly described above, and the nearest post-town is

My factor in London is Mr.

I am Sir,

Your humble servant,

TO MR. WILLIAM SIMONS,
at the East-India House,
London.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

LIST OF LONG ELL ORDERS FOR 1814.

	<i>Green Forrels</i>	<i>Supers</i>		<i>Green Forrels</i>	<i>Supers</i>
Adams	500	60	Glanville	400	
Bentalls	5600	1200	Heathfield	8000	200
R. Berry	5300	500	Haydon	180	
J. Brown	1500		Hole	960	60
J. Brown	340		Hoare	80	
Brooke	1200		Hornbracket	1000	
Bury	760		Jackson	4300	10
Bawden	400		Honeywell	700	
Bremridge	500		Luxmore	100	
Caunter	3500		Langdon	2600	600
Codd	100		Laven	2400	
Cornish	470		Lange	1620	
Cook	700		Lardner	100	
Dennis	360		Leach	240	
Dunn	200		Madge	5780	600
Elworthy	240		W. Maunder	4300	740
Fox	11,300	1500	J. Maunder	2600	500
Fulford	4000	200	G. Pearse	2500	240
Fabyan	2500	400	W. Pearse	1600	240
Francis	300	100	T. Pearse	500	400

The above show the number of pieces ordered, each piece being 24 yards in length.

1783. Peace was made between England, France, and Spain, and the American Colonies, and the Independence of these Colonies was recognised.

Thomas Fox was married this year to Sarah Smith of Stamford Hill, London, daughter of Thomas Smith, partner in the London Bank of Smith, Wright, & Gray.

Thomas Fox of Wellington, in the County of Somerset, Merchant, Son of Edward Fox, late of Wadebridge, in Cornwall, Merchant, deceased, and Anna his Wife, him surviving, and Sarah Smith, Daughter of Thomas Smith of Lombard Street, London, Banker, and Elizabeth his Wife, she being deceased;

Having declared their Intentions of Taking each other in Marriage before several Meetings of the People called Quakers in London, and the Proceedings of the said Thomas Fox and Sarah Smith after due Enquiry and deliberate Consideration thereof, were Allowed by the said Meetings, They appearing Clear of all Others, and having Consent of Parents and others Concerned.

Now These are to Certify all whom it may Concern, That for the Accomplishing of their said Marriage, This Second Day of the Fourth Month called April in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Three, They the said Thomas Fox and Sarah Smith, Appeared in a Publick Assembly of the aforesaid People and Others, in their Meeting House near Gracechurch Street, And he the said Thomas Fox, taking the said Sarah Smith by the Hand, did Openly and Solemnly Declare as followeth, Friends, in the Fear of the Lord, and before this Assembly, I take this my Friend Sarah Smith to be my Wife, promising, through divine Assistance, to be unto her a loving, and faithful Husband, until it shall please the Lord by death to separate us.

And the said Sarah Smith, did then and there in the said Assembly, in like manner declare as followeth, Friends, in the Fear of the Lord, and before this Assembly, I take this my Friend Thomas Fox to be my Husband, promising, through divine Assistance, to be unto him a loving, and faithful Wife, until it shall please the Lord by death to separate us.

And the said Thomas Fox, and Sarah Smith, as a farther Confirmation thereof and in Testimony thereunto, did then and there to these Presents set their Hands.

We whose Names are hereunto Subscribed, being present among Others at the Solemnizing of the abovesaid Marriage, and Subscription, in Manner aforesaid, as Witnesses thereunto, have also to these Presents Subscribed our Names The Day and Year above Written.

Relations.

Geo Fry	Dea Amey	John Pryor	John Shewell	Thomas Smith
Geo Chalkley Taylor	Dorothy Atkinson	Mary Pryor	Sarah Shewell junr	Mary Smith
James Pyle	Doct. Tho South of Philad.	Deborah Townsend	Mary Shewell	Edm Fox
Sam Harris	Anna Fry	Timothy Bevan	Ann Shewell	Mary Bevan
James Childen	Eliu Fry	Rich Chester	Priscilla Bevan	Elizabeth Fox
Elizabeth Boulton	Mary Sims	Thos Broadbent	Ely a Bevan	Rebecca Smith
John Smith	Ann Sims	Benj Batt	Berry Marshman	Ellis Weres
Mary Lister junr	Ann Bundeck	Davy Osborn	Jos Talwin	Sarah Tillotson
Ely Lister	Hannah Maria Hossey	Amy Bellamy	Ely Talwin	Sarah Jefferys
Hannah Perry	Tho Davis	Thos Brown	Ellen Sandiford	Mary Addis
Thomas Gould	Elyth Warner	Morris Birkbeck	Elin Cuttridge	Joseph Fox Junr
Henry Rice	Deborah Priday	Sarah Birkbeck	John Lister	Elyth Fox
	Sarah Harrison	Wm Minn	Mary Lister	Sarah Wiles
	Sarah Wilelead	Sam Phillips	John Wright	Sarah Jefferys
	Ann Lowe	Wm Minn	John Huxler	Hannah Harrison
	M. Green	Samuel Parker	Christiana Huxler	Geo Harrison
	Rich North	Ruth Turner	Hannah Wigham	Henry Perry
	Sam West junr	Ely Laundry	Wm Wilelead Junr	Mary Perry

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William Were, one of the partners and an uncle of Thomas Fox, died this year.

1784. Peace was made between England and Holland.

An indigo vat appears in the Stock Book for the first time, and indigo to the value of 736*l*. This marks the beginning of indigo dyeing. There were also nineteen horses, that were used for trade purposes, which were valued at 138*l*.; horses must have been cheap in those days.

1787. A house in South Street, Wellington, was built by T. Fox, in which most of his children were born.

There appear in the Stock Book the particulars of goods that had been consigned to European countries valued at 2483*l* 10*s*., and to the American Colonies at 9996*l* 10*s*. This was in consequence of a large accumulation brought about by a long period of depression in the trade.

In one of the memorandum books particulars are given of the consumption of loaves of bread by a number of families residing in Wellington, and also of the cost of the same:

8th Mo. 1789: Wheat being sold at 8/- to 8/3 the Bushell, the Standard Weight of the Loaf is 4lb. 5ozs. 6 drams. The following families consume as follows:—

		<i>Weekly.</i>
Jas Thorne Wife & 8 Children .	10 People	18 Loaves
Nath Upham Wife & 5 Children	7 „	11 „
Jno Thomas Wife & 2 Children	4 „	7 „
Benj Winter Wife & 4 Children	6 „	11 „
Peter Berry Wife & 3 Children	5 „	7 „
Robt Shurferds family . . .	5 „	10 „

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					<i>Weekly.</i>
Jas Westcotts family	.	.	7	„	14 Loaves
Robt Pynes family	.	.	6	„	10 „
Th ^a Coopers family	.	.	7	„	12 „
Geo Gores family	.	.	6	„	10 „
Jno Pynes family	.	.	6	„	8 „
Wm Shorlands family	.	.	5	„	9 „
Jn ^o Jenkins family	.	.	4	„	7 „
Sam. Jenkins family	.	.	4	„	5 „
Hannah Hurford	.	.	4	„	5 „
Mich ^l Stradling	.	.	4	„	6 „
Wm Stradling	.	.	7	„	13 „
Jno Pyne	.	.	8	„	13 „
					105 People 176 Loaves

18 families consisting of 35 grown People & 70 Children consume 176 Loaves Weekly : the brown sort at $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per Loaf, the best sort $8\frac{1}{2}d.$

Each family on an Average consists of ab^t 2 Grown People & 4 Children, & consumes near 10 Loaves or ab^t 6/- worth of bread.

Thomas Fox purchased large quantities of wool from the farmers of the district, and for greater convenience in paying them he began in 1787 the issue of bank-notes, which has been continued to the present day.

In later years this banking business was taken over and developed by Fox, Fowler, & Co., of Wellington, with numerous branches in Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall.

1789. The French Revolution began in this year, with disastrous results to trade.

In 1790 an amount of 3458*l.* was written off the goods that had been consigned in 1783 to the American Colonies ;



Thomas Fox.
Born 1786. Died 1862.



Samuel Fox.
Born 1794. Died 1874.



Henry Fox.
Born 1800. Died 1876.



Charles Fox.
Born 1804. Died 1860.

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with the exception of one lot to Philadelphia, all these goods had been sent to the Southern Colonies.

1793. Louis XVI. was condemned to death and war was declared by France against England and Holland, and the first coalition formed against France, consisting of England, Russia, Sardinia, Naples, Prussia, Austria, and Tuscany.

Stephen Matravers died in 1795, and in 1796 Nicholas Were also died and Thomas Fox was left sole partner.

The close of the eighteenth century brought with it an important change in the woollen manufacture.

The ancient method of hand-spinning, carried on in the homes of the people, was about to become a thing of the past. Carding engines, spinning jennies, and worsted spinning machinery were to take its place.

Thomas Fox, who in 1796 had been left sole partner in the business, set to work with great energy to prepare for the change. He purchased the Town Mills at Wellington (old flour mills), and an old mill at Uffculme, Devon, eight miles from Wellington; improved the water-courses, and erected new mills at both places. Those at Wellington were called the Tonedale Mills, and that at Uffculme, Coldharbour Mill.

At both places he put in scribbling and carding engines, spinning jennies, and worsted spinning machinery.

1797. Cotford Mills and racks were purchased for 257*l.* 10*s.*, a small fulling mill at some distance; it was afterwards sold.

1798. Coldharbour Mill, Uffculme, appears in the Stock sheets for the first time it was valued at 1400*l.*

This was the year of the Irish Rebellion.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

1799. Town Mills appear for the first time, they were valued at 1050*l*.

The house and backlet in Millway, Wellington, now the Victoria Inn, was bought by Thomas Fox in the same year as the purchase of the Town Mills, and was sold in 1807, after the completion of the building of the mills, the dwelling-house at Tonedale, and the farm buildings.

About twenty years ago, when some buildings were being erected at the back of the Victoria Inn, it was found that the soil was all made ground, and that evidently at some time there had been a large excavation there.

It was at that time almost a necessity to get the bricks made in the neighbourhood on account of the difficulty and expense of carriage, and no doubt the object of buying this property was to obtain clay for making the bricks.

The house at Werescote, three miles from Wellington, was built at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and the bricks used for the house and the kitchen garden walls were probably supplied by Thomas Fox to his cousin, the owner of Werescote, from the same source.

A contract was made in 1800 with George Oatway for supplying these bricks, of which the following are the particulars :—

Bricks to be made at 7*s*. 6*d*. p 'Thousand: Water Sand & Straw with Wood and Coals to be brought in place at the master's expence, the brick to be burnt in the same place where they are dried. And to be two hard bricks to one soft one in a workmanlike manner. And when the Kiln is examined if they are not so, we the undertakers do agree to low two Shillings p Thousand for every such Thousand of brick as shall be found deficient in the manner above mentioned.



EDWARD FOX
Born 1789. Died 1845.



SYLVANUS FOX.
Born 1791. Died 1851.

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The head to be reeded at the master's expense, & Wheelbarrows for driving the bricks to the kiln.

The money to be drawing in the manner following

1*s.* 0*d.* per Thousand for turning the Clay.

4*s.* 6*d.* per Thousand making the brick.

2*s.* 0*d.* per Thousand to be left in the master's hand till the bricks burnt.

To turning back the kiln after is burnt six pence per thousand.

To butting of the soft bricks into the Kiln one shilling thousand.

It appears at this time that the wages paid to the girls feeding the scribblers were from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per week, with much longer hours than at the present time.

1800. Thomas Fox bought one moiety of the estate called Holways & Voiseys—being a considerable portion of the present farm: the other moiety was contracted for. Woods estate was also bought.

In this year, 1800, the Act of Union between England and Ireland was passed by the Legislature.

1802. Previously to this time the machinery at Wellington belonging to the firm was located in the premises at Trade House, adjoining Bulford House, the old family residence of the Berrys and Weres. It was driven by four horses, working in a horse wheel.

The following is an inventory of this machinery :—

Horse wheel, drum and shafts	.	.	£20	0	0
4 double carders	.	.	300	0	0
4 scribblers	.	.	200	0	0

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

3 wool mills	30	0	0
15 billeys	60	0	0
45 jennies	120	0	0
15 spinning baskets	10	0	0
5 spooling machines	40	0	0
6 stoves	12	0	0
2 machines in barn	45	0	0
	<u>£837</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Annexed is an inventory of the machinery at the Town Mills, now called Tonedale, and also of the machinery at Coldharbour Mill :—

8 spinning frames, 576 spindles at 32s	£921	12	0
4 drawing and 7 roving frames at £6.	66	0	0
1 spooling machine and 5 warping bars	15	0	0
4 double carders, 60 inches	300	0	0
1 single carder, not carded	25	0	0
5 scribblers	220	0	0
3 wool mills	30	0	0
15 billies	55	0	0
49 jennies	140	0	0
Strainers and bobbins, baskets, &c.	30	0	0
Wheel, shaft, and going gear	400	0	0
7 drums, 644 spindles at 22s	708	8	0
4 drawing heads for roving do, at £7.	112	0	0
Wheel, shaft, and going gear	450	0	0
1 gig mill	40	0	0
2 shearing frames	50	0	0
5 carding engines, single and double	160	0	0
4 scribbling engines	120	0	0
1 wool mill and spooling engine	10	0	0



G.R.
Apprentices Indenture.

15/7

His Indenture Witnesseth That Sylvanus Fox
Son of Thomas and Sarah Fox of Wellington in the County
of Somerset Serge. Makers

doth put himself Apprentice to the said Thomas and Sarah Fox
to learn their Art and with them (after the Manner of an Apprentice) to serve from the
22nd of 10th mo. 1805 unto the full End and Term
of seven Years, from thence next following, to be fully compleat and ended.

DURING which Term, the said Apprentice his Master faithfully shall serve their secrets
keep their lawful commands everywhere gladly do. he shall do no Damage to his said Master nor see to be
done of others; but to his Power shall let, or forthwith give Warning to his said Master of the same. he
shall not waste the Goods of his said Master & nor lend them unlawfully to any. he shall not commit
Fornication, nor contract Matrimony within the said Term. he shall not play at Cards, Dice, Tables, or any
other unlawful Games whereby his said Master & may have any loss. With their own Goods or others
during the said Term without Licence of his said Master & he shall neither buy nor sell. he shall not
haunt Taverns or Play houses, nor absent himself from his said Master's Service Day or Night unlaw-
fully. But in all things as a faithful Apprentice he shall behave himself towards his said Master & and
all their during the said Term. AND the said Thomas and Sarah Fox

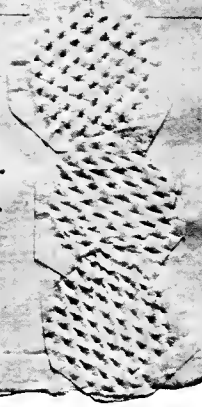
their said Apprentice in the Art of Serge Making which they use by the best Means that
they can shall teach and instruct, or cause to be taught and instructed finding unto the said Apprentice
sufficient Meat, Drink, Cloathing, Lodging and all other Necessaries during the said Term.

AND for the true Performances of all and every the said Covenants and Agreements either of the said Parties
bindeth himself unto the other by these Presents In Witness whereof the Parties above named to these Inden-
tures interchangeably have put their Hands and Seals the second Day of eleventh month and
in the forty sixth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George & third by the Grace of God of
the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and in the Year of our Lord
one Thousand eight Hundred and five

AB. The Indenture, Covenant, Article, or Contract, must bear date the day it is executed, & what
Money or other thing is given or Contracted for with the Clerk or Apprentice, must be
inserted in Words at Length, otherwise the Indenture will be void, the Master or
Mistress forfeit fifty Pounds, & an other Penalty, & the Apprentice be disabled to
follow their Trade or be made free.

Witnesses { Sarah Fox Junr.
Anna Fox

Sylvanus Fox
Thomas Fox.
Sarah Fox



AT WELLINGTON

10 slubbing billies	.	.	.	.	50	0	0
25 jennies	.	.	.	.	70	0	0
Strainers, bobbins, and baskets	.	.	.	.	20	0	0
6 warping bars, &c.	.	.	.	.	12	0	0
Shears, cloths, &c.	.	.	.	.	20	0	0
Teazles	.	.	.	.	15	0	0
85 cans	.	.	.	.	11	0	0
					£4051	0	0

In 1805 the battle of Trafalgar was fought.
William Pitt and Charles James Fox died in 1806.

Harford Mills appear, valued at 850*l.*, but the entry disappears after a year or two. These were fulling mills on the river Tone a short distance above the old Tone fulling mill.

Thomas Fox's dwelling-house in South Street was sold for 2628*l.*, and the family moved to Tonedale. He redeemed the land tax on his property for the sum of 412*l.*

In the year 1808 the French Emperor prohibited all commerce with Great Britain, and the ports of Holland were closed against Britain.

The dwelling-house at Tonedale was valued at 3000*l.*; and the farm buildings at 600*l.*

In the years 1809–13 shares were taken up in the Grand Western Canal to the amount of 1044*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, and were valued at 722*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* A great part of the canal was subsequently closed and filled in.

1811. My uncle, Thomas Fox, was taken into partnership with his father—he was the eldest son; and soon after this the name of the firm was changed to Thos. Fox

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

& Sons. Annexed is the copy of an agreement made between Thomas Fox and John Perry:—

‘John Perry agrees to serve T. Fox, as Indoor Servant, at the Wages of Twenty pounds a Year, board, washing, & lodging, to have the Perquisites of Grains and Barm in brewing & T. Fox to pay the subscription to the Society for encouraging Servants. J. Perry to have the Barm only of the small Beer, & T. Fox to have the Grains.’

In 1811 Thomas Fox and his four elder sons began to hold weekly meetings for the purpose of discussing business matters, and recorded the results in a minute-book. Unfortunately, for some unexplained reason, the entering of these minutes soon came to an end, but the practice of holding conferences between the partners has been kept up through all succeeding years, until replaced by the Weekly Board Meetings of the Company.

In 1815 the battle of Waterloo was fought, and peace was concluded with France. New Corn Laws were enacted, which greatly enhanced the cost of food, and were the cause of serious riots.

Members of the Society of Friends suffered greatly in the old days on account of distraints made upon them in consequence of their conscientious refusal to pay tithes, and at this time a claim was made on Thomas Fox & Sons for 241*l.* 6*s.*, with expenses 5*l.* 10*s.*, and there was taken from their farm sixty sheep, thirty lambs, five cows, two steers, together of the value of 249*l.* 6*s.*

In 1816 my uncle, Sylvanus Fox, and my father, Samuel Fox, were admitted as partners—my uncle, Edward Fox, having joined the firm a little while before.



Thomas Fox.
Born 1828. Died 1898.

AT WELLINGTON

1820. The Atlantic was crossed for the first time by a steamship.

1821. My grandfather, Thomas Fox, died, and the business was carried on by four of his sons.

The mill at Tonedale was destroyed by fire, but was quickly rebuilt.

1822. My uncle, Henry Fox, became a partner, and my uncle, Charles Fox, soon after.

1826. The name of the firm was altered to Fox Brothers.

1832. The Great Reform Bill was passed this year.

1833. My grandmother, Sarah Fox, died.

1834. The Liverpool and Manchester Railway opened.

1837. This was the last year in which the mail coaches ran the whole way from Wellington to London, for in the following year, 1838, the railway was opened from Paddington to Maidenhead.¹

1840. Penny Postage was introduced in this year.

The first steam engine was purchased by the firm for 90*l.*, with a boiler for 20*l.*

1842. In this year the Railway was opened from Bristol to Exeter, with a station at Wellington, which was within a very short distance of the Tonedale Factory. This made an enormous difference to the business, as goods had no longer to be sent by road at great expense

¹ The writer was then four years old, and travelled with two of his parents' maid-servants inside the coach all the way to London. He will never forget the journey, which made a deep impression on his memory, especially two incidents. Passing through Bath in the evening, the gas-lights seemed to his childish mind a brilliant illumination. The second incident occurred at Marlborough, where they changed horses. A kindly farmer on horseback saw the little boy in the coach and bought some cakes, which he gave him, an act of kindness that he has never forgotten.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

and serious delay; but from that time forth they were carried by rail to all parts of the Island.¹

1846. Annexed is a list of some of the wages paid at this time, and it must be remembered that the hours worked were longer than at the present day.

Hand mule slub-		Sorters	.	.	£0 10 0
bers	.	Mason labourers	0 10 0		
Masons	.	Carters	.	.	0 10 0
Carpenters	.	Dyers	.	.	0 9 6
Fitters	.	Gas men	.	.	0 10 6
Smiths	.	Night watchman	0 12 3		
Engine cleaners	0 11 0				

Women.

Sorters	.	.	0 4 0		Feeders	.	.	0 5 0
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The year 1846 was an eventful one in the economic and financial history of England. It was the year of the Repeal of the Corn Laws, when the long era of commercial prosperity had its beginning.

This was accompanied by an extraordinary improvement in the conditions of the wage-earning class. The figures which I have been able to give of the rates of wages paid at that time, when compared with those of the present year 1914, show an increase of considerably more than 100 per cent., and the price of bread is also much less than it was at that period.

¹ The writer well remembers the first passenger train that reached Wellington from Bristol, the carriages being decorated with flags. His mother and he travelled as far as Beam Bridge, two miles west of Wellington, where a temporary terminus station had been erected. The White Ball Tunnel was not then completed, and in consequence, for many months, passengers were conveyed in carriages over the Whiteball Hill to Burlescombe Station, where they resumed the journey to Exeter by rail.



Dillworth Crewdson Fox.

Born 1828. Died 1887.

AT WELLINGTON

In 1850 I began my business life in the mills at Wellington, and have been connected with them ever since—a period of sixty-four years. During that time I have witnessed many great changes. Hand-loom and hand-combing have been replaced by power-loom and combing machinery, and many other changes have taken place. The improvements in machinery have been very great, and many new methods and processes have been introduced.

The premises have been much enlarged and extended, additional works have been erected at Cullompton, Wiveliscombe and Culmstock, and the volume of business has greatly increased.

In 1863 a system of Profit Sharing was set on foot, which has been in operation ever since. The Annual Reports of the Board of Trade reveal the fact that the scheme has lasted for a longer period than any other in this country.

In 1874 other means for the improvement of the conditions of those employed in the works were brought into operation. See Appendix L.

Old Age Pensions.

Half Wages in case of Accidents.

Free Medical Attendance.

Compulsory Insurance against Sickness.

Maternity Benefits.

Dining Rooms and Kitchen have existed for many years, and new Dining Rooms, Kitchen, and Recreation Rooms have recently been built.

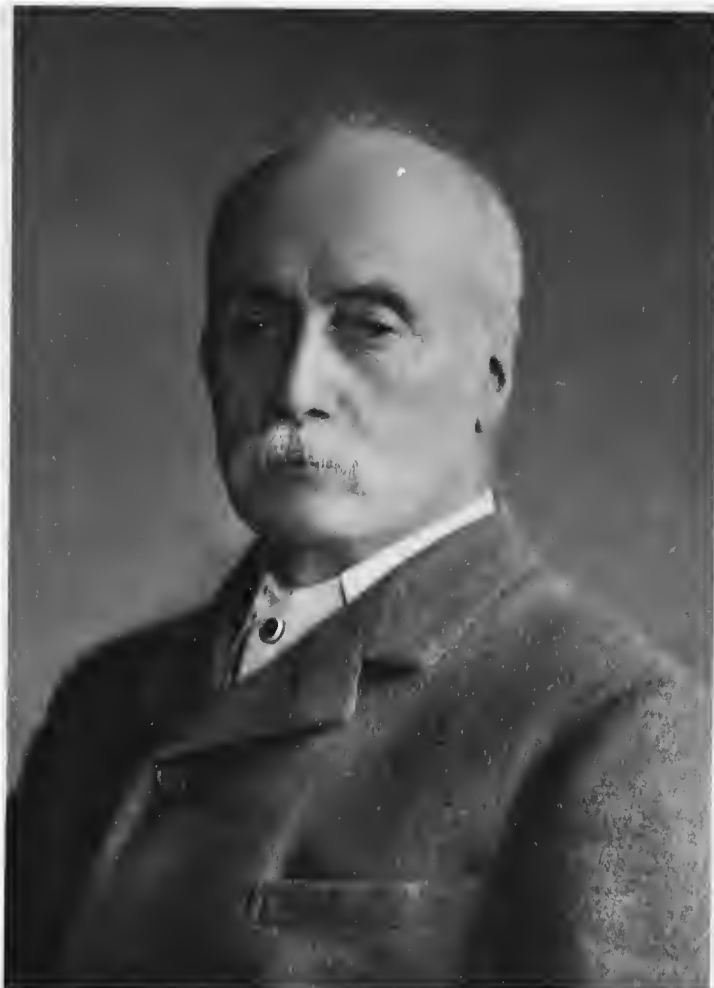
Thus (by nearly forty years) were anticipated the National Schemes of Compensation for Accidents, Old Age Pensions, and Insurance against Sickness.

In 1849, some of the younger generation having been

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

admitted into partnership, the name of the firm was changed from Fox Brothers to Fox Brothers & Co., and in 1896 the business was converted into a private limited company with the title of Fox Brothers & Co., Ltd.

In these pages I have endeavoured to trace the growth of this West of England business from its earliest beginnings down to the present day, carried on by my ancestors for many generations, and still in the hands of the same family.



Joseph Hoyland Fox.
Born 1833.

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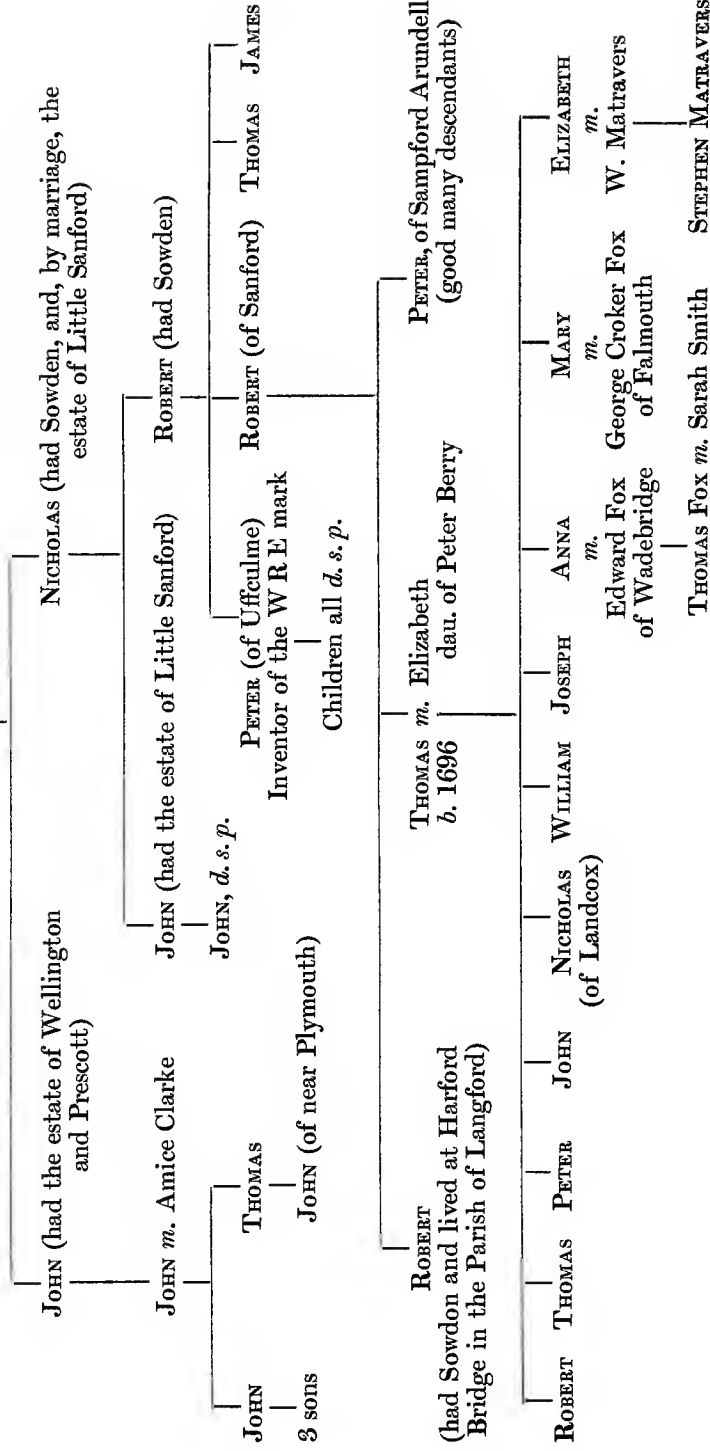
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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

I.—PEDIGREE OF THE WERE FAMILY

JOHN WERE (of Pinksmoor ; time of Queen Elizabeth)

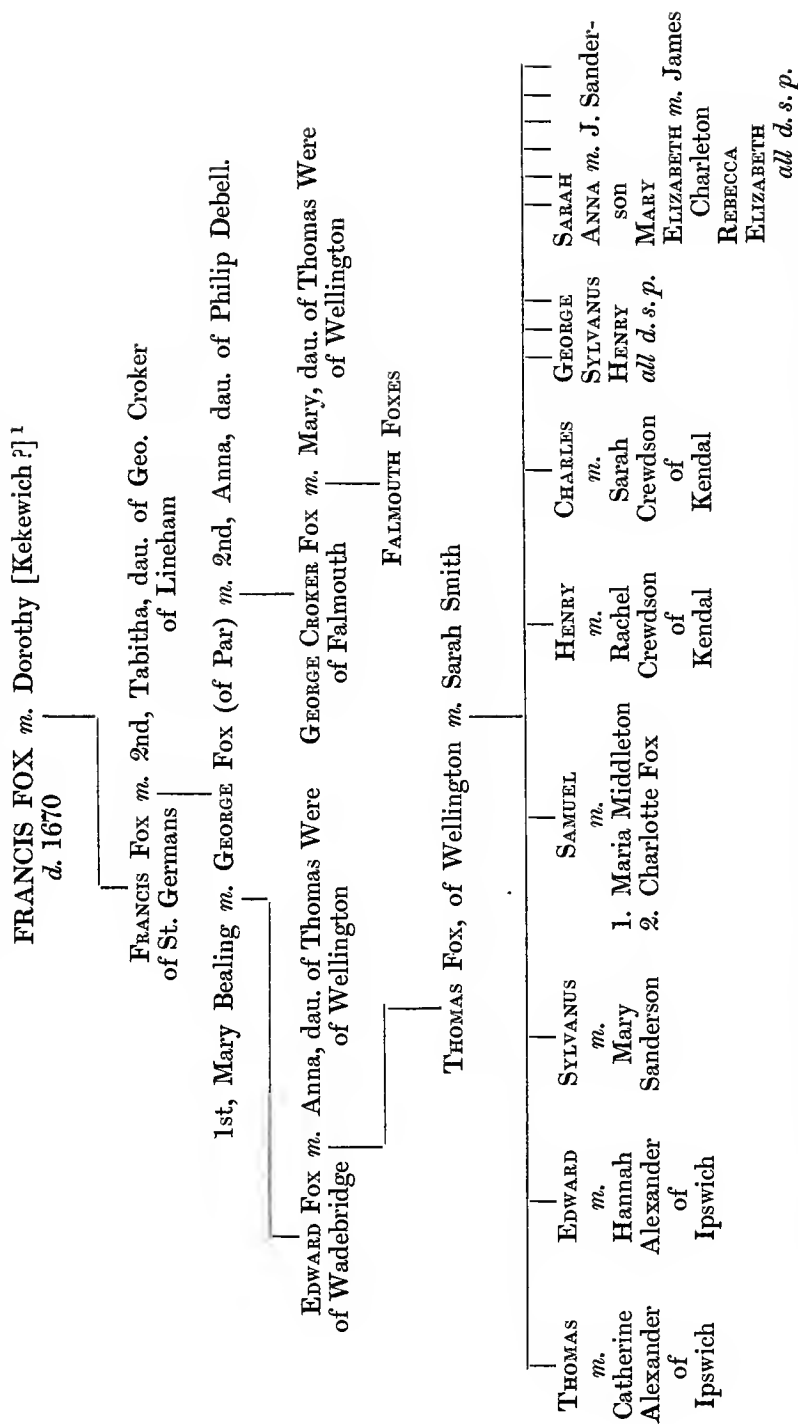




Charles Henry Fox.

Born 1835 Died 1908.

II.—PEDIGREE OF THE FOX FAMILY



The Plymouth and Exeter Foxs were also descended from Edward Fox of Wadebridge.
‘Thomas, Edward, Sylvanus, Samuel, Henry, and Charles were the ‘Fox Bros.’

¹ ‘Dorothy Kekewich.’ There is no evidence for her name being Kekewith. It is most probable that she was a connection of the Kekewiches, or a member of their household.



Henry Fox.
Born 1856, lost in the Caucasus 1888.

APPENDIX B

WELLINGTON JUSTICES.

*Representations made to the Wellington Justices by
Thomas Were, Robert Were, and Thomas Were, junr.,
in consequence of the circulation of reports injurious
to the trade carried on by them.*

To all to whome these presents shall come greeting.

Whereas Thomas Were Robert & Thomas Were ye younger Merchants of Good Creditt fame and reputation resideing at Wellington in ye County of Somerset and Carrieing one there a Joynt Trade in Manufactureing and Makeing diverse sortes and quallities of Serges and other goods & in Merchandizeing Exporting & sending ye same in Holland,—Have represented unto us all his Majestys Justices of the peace for ye County of Somerset and Liveing Near Wellington aforesaid whose hands and Seales are hereunto set and affixed. That some Evil Disposed person or persons inventing and Contriveing how to Circomvent and Suppress their trade or Merchandizeing & ye Sales of their wares at Amsterdam & other places in Holland have or hath Lately falsly Scandalously & Malitiously rumored & reported That Their goods are not of ye best & right Quallities according to the severall Stamps and Markes they putt on & affix to them, which are as followeth (to witt) on the right **WRE** Make on ye face or upper part of ye Lead is Impressed a (Mermaid) & Geo Osmond Round it: and on ye Reverse is Impressed

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

22 and Tho good Round it—on ye first sortes of 22 yards—on ye face or upper part of ye Lead is impressed a Clover grass G O—and Henry Blagdon round it, and on ye reverse there of is impressed 22 & Tho good round it—and on ye Next first Sortes on ye face or uper part of the Lead is impressed a (1. foot S F) under it Sam Burridge Tiverton Round it and on ye reverse there of is impressed ($\frac{22}{6}$) & Tho good round it.

And whereas it appeares unto us Not only from the fame and report of ye Country here abt But also from our Knowledge of the said Thomas Were & Comp—that they are faithfull Honest Industrious tradesmen & as we verily belive Every way skilled and well Quallified for ye carrying one & Excercissing the trade and Merchandise aforesaid. That the said Thomas Were is the father of ye said Robert and Thomas Were the younger, and that they have all been Educated and brott up in the branches of the Serge trade from their Infancy—that ye sd Thomas Were ye elder is ye Son of ye Next brother and Heir at Law of Peter Were Decessd the antient Maker of the **WRE** Marke and first sort of goods, & who as we have heard and do belive usually sould his peices to Robt Burridge & Geo Thorn Merchts in Tiverton in ye County of Devon : as Did also both before and after his Deceese the father of ye said Thos Were ye Elder—and Granfather of ye sd Robert & Thomas Were ye younger So that ye said Co partners are as it were become Intitled to ye Trade of their ancestors by Heridatary Right and Decent and that the said Thomas Were the Elder hath Dealt as Largely in ye Serge trade as any Maker in all this Country for between Thirtyand fourty yeares and sould Great Quantity's of Goods to ye said Geo Thorn Samuel Burridge John Newton Will^m & Samuel Lewis & Geo Osmond all

AT WELLINGTON

merchants in Tiverton aforesaid.—That we have heard and Do belive that ye sd Ro' & Tho' Were ye younger have been also very well Educated and brott up in ye Serge trade and in particular ye sd Thos Were ye younger received his Education from ye aforesaid Geo Osmond Merchant and under ye Care & direction of Mr Wotherus Depsill Mercht at Rotterdam in Holland to whome ye sd Geo Osmond sent and Recomended him for the particular Respect hee bore to ye sd Thos Were ye Elder and good likeing hee had to ye sd Thos Were ye younger and that since ye Death of ye sd Geo Osmond ye sd Thos Were ye younger is ye only Clarke of ye Late Geo Osmond Now (Liveing?) and Merchandizeing in ye Serge trade and that ye aforesd Copartners in perfecting their Merchandize Do Employ one Thomas Hurford packer to assist them in ye Employment of Measureing Inspecting Examining Waying & packing their said good and who is now aged 34 abt yeares and hath for ye Most part always been employed in some or other of ye branches of ye Serge trade from his Infancy. NOW know yee—that in order ye better to Confirm ye truth of what has been Here asserted and Sett forth we do hereby Certifie that ye sd Thos Were Robt & Tho' Were ye younger being 3 of ye people Called Quakers—have this day solemnly sincerely & Truly *declared & affirmed before us that they do not allow of any Slight Scovey Light or damaged piecs to be Stamp with Either of ye aforesaid Stamps—or Impressions of ye Mermaid Clovey or foot stamps—but they on ye Conterary* take all due Care to prevent bad or damaged pecies to be ever Stampt or pack with Either of ye said Last mentioned Stamps or Impressions and these affirmants do further depose & say that ye severall goods and Merchandizes Now Lately by them Exported and sent in ye Jufro

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

Jacoba Job Douwes Master to Mr Abm. Vanbrogel Mercht in Amsterdam in Holland are all of their own make and Manufacture and are all in Quallity and Goodness according to the aforesaid Mermaid Clovey & foot stamps—and Those afirmants do further depose & say That since their Merchandizeing Their own Wares and Manufactures They are considerably preferable to ye goods formerly made by said Thos Were the Elder or any of their Company under the same Carrectors or markes and sould to ye Aforesaid Merchants in Tiverton before their Exporting their own goods and that ye sd Thos Were ye younger was Educated & Instructed in Maner aforesaid by ye sd Geo Osmond & Mr Wotherus Depsill—and we do also Certifie that ye sd Thos Hurford hath made oth befor us that hee hath for severall yeares Last past been Imployd by the aforesaid Thos Were & Co in ye Inspecting Examining Measureing Waying & packing of ye Goods and Merchandices by them from time to Time sent to Holland and hath been Examined Measured Wayed and Stampd or assisted in Examining Measureing Waying & Stamping all or ye Most part of such goods and peices as aforesaid and saith that they do Never allow of any Slight Scovey Light or bad peces to be Stampd packt or Markt with ye aforesd Markes of ye Mermaid Clovey or foot Stampds and that all such pecies as have those particular Impressions afix'd to them are in Quallity and Goodness according to Their severall Stampds sett to them and saith that hee verily believes that if any peces or goods have been sent to holland with out his Inspection—that they have been of Equale Goodness and Value with those hee hath so Inspected and this Inform further saith that hee hath had other Makers goods under his Notice made for Holland in ye Like Sortes of his present Masters and that he

AT WELLINGTON

verily believes ye goods & Serges sent to holland by his said present masters are in generall preferable to what he hath so seen in the Like sorts of other makers by being wrought with Better wooll & Better manufactured and that his present masters do pay more money for Labour in makeing their Serges than any other makers he hath wrought for or been Employed by doe for ye Like Sorts of goods Although hee hath been Concerned in ye said manufacture for more than twenty yeares Last past and wrought for, & been Employed by Severall different makers

T W: R W: T W: T H:

The fifteenth day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred & fifty one, The above named Thos Were Robt Were and Thomas Were ye younger & Thomas Hurford personally Came before us whose hands & Seales are hereunto Set & Subscribed four, of his majesty's Justices of the peace in & for ye County of Somersett abovesaid, and ye said Thos Were Robt Were & Thos Were ye younger being quakers did severally solemnly sincerely & truly declare & affirm and ye said Thom^s Hurford did make oath that the Contents of ye above written Certificate Affirmation Declaration & oath & of every part thereof are true to the Best of their knowledge Judgement & Belief Witness our hands & Seales the day & year before written

Jno Trevelyan.
Baronet

J Holladay
Esqr
Jn^o Gunston
Esqr.

Tho^s Darch
Esqr

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

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APPENDIX C

Money invested on loan in the business of Weres & Co., previously called Thomas Were & Sons, December 31st, 1771.

JOHN WERE, 409*l.* 2*s.* Brother of Thomas Were, junr.

ELIZABETH WERE, 156*l.* The wife of Thomas Were, senr. : she was the daughter of Peter Berry, who lived at Bulford House, Wellington. Her sister married William Cookworthy, the discoverer of China clay in Cornwall and the inventor of the celebrated Plymouth and Bristol porcelain and china.

ELIZABETH MATRAVERS, 206*l.* One of the three daughters of Thomas Were, senr.—the other daughters married Edward Fox, of Wadebridge, and George Croker Fox, of Falmouth.

STEPHEN MATRAVERS, 724*l.* Son of Elizabeth Matravers and first cousin of Thomas Fox ; he became a partner in Thomas Were & Sons, December 31st, 1771.

THOMAS WERE, junr., 310*l.* Son of Thomas Were, senr., uncle of Thomas Fox, and a partner in the business. Money on loan outside his capital.

ROBERT WERE, 2500*l.* Another son of Thomas Were, senr., and also a partner in the business. Money on loan outside his capital.

ANN COLLIER, 1457*l.* 10*s.* Probably the eighth child of the first Joseph Collier (born 1718), who married Dorothy Fox, third daughter of Francis Fox, of St. Germans. Joseph Collier died in 1764.

AT WELLINGTON

ALICE DICKER, 1700/. There was a Friend family of the name of Dicker, living in or near Exeter. Dr. Michael Lee Dicker was a founder of and physician to the Exeter Hospital, where his portrait is to be seen. He was born in 1693. His wife was Alice Finnamore, of Cullompton.

ELIZABETH ELWORTHY, 400/. Joseph Collier, who died in 1773, married a Mary Elworthy, and Robert Were, jnr., married an Elworthy. Elizabeth Elworthy was no doubt connected with these Elworthys.

JOSEPH COLLIER, 510/. No doubt the husband of Mary Elworthy. He died in 1773. In 1776 his name disappeared from the ledgers. Possibly Mary Collier and Elizabeth Elworthy were sisters of Robert Were jnr.'s wife.

CHARLES FOX, 510/. A banker of Plymouth, who died in 1801. A man in affluent circumstances. He was the son of John Fox, the youngest son of Francis Fox of St. Germans, and therefore first cousin of Thomas Fox's father.

ELIZABETH WERE, 303/ ; MARY WERE, 303/. Both of Uffculme. Daughters of Peter Were, the second (of Sampford Arundell). They are described as cousins in one of the balance-sheets.

WALTER BERRY, 182/. Probably a relation of Peter Berry, father-in-law of Thomas Were, senr.

ELIZABETH HAVILAND, 776/. She was the sister of Thomas Were, senr., and great-aunt of Thomas Fox.

THOMAS BAILEY, 417/. Unknown.

NICHOLAS WERE, 2431/. One of the sons of Thomas Were and a partner. This was money on loan outside his capital.

THOMAS CULVERWELL, 500/. Unknown.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

ANNA FOX, the wife of Edward Fox, of Wadebridge, and MARY FOX, the wife of George Croker Fox, of Falmouth, daughters of Thomas Were, senr., had legacies from their uncle, Robert Were, of 100*l.* each. Also similar legacies from their uncle, Peter Were. These amounts were loaned to Thomas Were & Son at four per cent.

AT WELLINGTON

APPENDIX D.

THE FIRM'S ASSETS.

	<i>Assets.</i>	<i>Price of Somerset Fleeces.</i>		<i>Assets.</i>	<i>Price of Somerset Fleeces.</i>
1753	£9,816	$6\frac{1}{4}$	1778	44,819	$7\frac{1}{2}$
1754	—	—	1779	43,115	$6\frac{1}{4}$
1755	9,532	6	1780	46,979	$6\frac{1}{4}$
1756	9,380	$6\frac{1}{4}$	1781	49,000	$5\frac{1}{4}$
1757	10,911	8	1782	52,076	$5\frac{1}{4}$
1758	11,719	9	1783	50,001	$7\frac{1}{4}$
1759	11,964	$8\frac{1}{2}$	1784	55,512	$7\frac{1}{4}$
1760	12,280	$8\frac{1}{4}$	1785	52,252	$7\frac{1}{2}$
1761	12,581	—	1786	52,621	$8\frac{1}{4}$
1762	12,353	—	1787	51,972	$8\frac{1}{2}$
1763	13,327	—	1788	45,577	$8\frac{3}{4}$
1764	14,588	—	1789	48,056	$8\frac{3}{4}$
1765	19,180	—	1790	43,970	$8\frac{3}{8}$
1766	22,424	—	1791	37,544	$8\frac{3}{4}$
1767	25,805	—	1792	36,546	12
1768	29,579	—	1793	37,209	$9\frac{1}{2}$
1769	32,954	—	1794	38,672	$8\frac{1}{2}$
1770	31,437	—	1795	—	$8\frac{3}{4}$
1771	39,984	—	1796	38,546	$8\frac{3}{4}$
1772	—	$7\frac{1}{2}$	1797	41,010	$7\frac{1}{2}$
1773	—	—	1798	44,466	$7\frac{1}{2}$
1774	34,433	$7\frac{1}{4}$	1799	57,155	9
1775	36,257	$7\frac{1}{2}$	1800	65,130	11
1776	39,598	8	1801	—	12
1777	—	—	1802	75,815	$12\frac{1}{2}$

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

	<i>Assets.</i>	<i>Price of Somerset Fleeces.</i>		<i>Assets.</i>	<i>Price of Somerset Fleeces.</i>
1803	69,959	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1811	—	9
1804	68,608	12	1812	—	9
1805	69,729	13	1813	—	13
1806	69,048	12	1814	—	18
1807	67,514	11	1815	—	18
1808	67,675	10	1816	—	18
1809	69,080	9	1817	—	16
1810	71,338	9	1818	—	12

I have not given the particulars of the assets subsequently to 1810, as the accounts from that time were kept in a different way.

AT WELLINGTON

APPENDIX E.

SERGE-MAKERS' COMBINE.

The following Agreement was entered into between the merchants met at Maidendown on the 2^d day of Sep^r 1771.

Lion Cap	51/6.	Lion Serges	51/-
Best Yard wides			47/-
2 ^d best Yard wides			44/6
3 ^d best Yard wides			43/-
W R E			38/6
Best Cap	37/-	Serges ditto	36/6
2 ^d best Cap	35/6	Serges ditto	35/-
3 ^d best Cap	34/-	Serges ditto	33/6
4th best Cap	32/6	Serges ditto	32/-
21½ yards			
Best Cap	29/6	Serges ditto	29/-
2 ^d best Cap	28/-	Serges ditto	27/6
3 ^d best Cap	26/6	Serges ditto	26/-
Skips			25/6
Little Skips			24/6
Little Little Skips			23/6
In 22 yard Goods & Upwards.			
Green Shades	} at 2/- per piece more than Com: Colourds.		
Sad Blues			
Gingerlines			
High Golds	at 1/- per piece more than ditto.		
Blue Sh ^{ds}	Black shds	} at 1/- per piece more than Caps	
Grass Green shds.			
Lt Gold shds			

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Light Blues & Light Grays at 1/6 per piece
under Com: Colourds.

In all 21½ yard Goods.

Grass Greens	} at 1/- per piece more than Common Colourds or Shades in their different sorts.
Black Shades	
Sad Blues	
Gingerlines	

Light Blues & Light Grays at 1/- per piece
under Com: Colourds.

Discount. Five per Cent on a Credit of Nine Months.
The discount to be allowed on remittances sent one month
after date of the Invoice & if remittances are not sent at
Nine months after date of the Invoice, then to have
Liberty to draw for the Amount.

These prices to be charged on all Goods, carried into
the united provinces or Germany or thro' the same. No
Serges to be sent abroad after the limited time say 11th
inst, on any of our Acct or without orders. Nor any
Serges to be sold to a Shipmaster, or any other persons,
belonging to their Vessell Trading to Holland, Zealand
or Germany.

All 22 yard Hot Press'd Goods going to the united
Provinces or Germany, or thro' the same. to be noted
sixpence per piece higher than ruff dresst Serges. All
Gold Serges & Shades above half red, to be noted as light
Golds at 1/- per piece advance. If any other sorts of
Serges are omitted, To be settled at a future Meeting,
before they are sent abroad.

All orders under hand, that can be got ready, for the
Autumn Voyage of the Dutch Ships, to be served at the
old prices. But no new orders to be accepted after the
11th day of Sepr without the advance agreed on. Neither

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any orders that may be already received for the Spring Voyage of said Ships.

No defective pieces of any kind to be sent abroad on any account whatsoever.

All the letters relating to this advance to be sent off Wednesday 11th Inst.

The Whole Transactions of this Society to remain a profound Secret to every one but the members composing it.

Letter agreed on to be sent abroad.

11th Sep^r 1771.

Gentlemen

The Serge Trade which for several years past has been gradually declining, by the Continued and onnatural fall of the prices, is now reduced to so low an Ebb, That the several Houses, concerned in this Branch have found it unavoidably necessary, to unite their endeavours, for restoring it to a better footing, and for this purpose have unanimously agreed and firmly resolved, to advance the prices of the several sorts of Goods to the following Standard, which is to be inviolably adhered to, as the general rule of the Trade, flattering ourselves, that this will prove as agreeable to you, as its needful for us. Wooll being advanced to such a pitch by the Extraordinary demands from America, Spain & other Countries, besides a great defect on the Growth of this year which has been much less than for many past—That for a considerable time neither Merchts nor Manufacturers, have enjoyed a profit any ways adequate to their Capitals & Trouble, which has occasioned many to quit the Business, & would in time doubtless prove the ruin of it, a reasonable profit

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being the only Spur to Industry. For these reasons we thought it proper to give you the earliest Information of said advance, which is to take place, on all orders received after this date or that cannot be got ready, for this Autumn Voyage of the Dutch Ships. The old orders underhand which can be got ready for the Autumn Ships, will be compleated at the old prices, and you will receive the like advices, from other Houses you may deal with in this Branch.

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APPENDIX F.

TRADE ACCOUNTS.

THOMAS WERE & SONS. DEC. 1771.

	£	s.	d.					£	s.	d.
Money on loan—nearly				<i>Credit.</i>						
all from relatives ...	15,723	19	11½	<i>Buildings—</i>						
Sundries	63	16	11	Tone Mill and Racks	1,060	0	0			
	15,787	16	10½	Uffculme Mill	200	0	0	1,260	0	0
N.B.—A very small por-				<i>Utensils—</i>						
tion of this is Bank				Dye Vats, &c.	277	0	0			
Debts—a mere frac-				Packing Presses	23	0	0			
tion				Sundries	90	7	9	390	7	9
Partners' Capital ...	19,757	9	0							
				Wool				6,240	0	7
				<i>Chains or Warps</i>				68	6	6
				<i>Goods</i>				9,685	3	4
				<i>Stores—</i>						
				Dyestuffs	1,522	6	4			
				Oil	327	1	1			
				Soap	143	8	0			
				Horses	133	0	0			
				Carts and Harness ...	22	0	0			
				Hay	111	11	6			
				Packing Materials ...	103	9	4			
				Coal and Charcoal ...	30	10	0			
				Wine	167	16	2			
				Sundries	2	17	0	2,659	0	2
				<i>Bank Debts</i>				14,329	18	10
				<i>Cash in House</i>				912	8	8
	35,545	5	10½					35,545	5	10

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Some of the amounts invested on loan. Dec. 1771.

John Were	£409	2	0
Stephen Matravers	724	11	4
Elizabeth Were (Mother)	156	0	0
Thomas Were, Jnr.	310	0	0
Joseph Penbridge	252	10	0
Robert Were	2,500	0	0
Ann Collier	1,457	10	0
Alice Dicker	1,742	2	6
Elizabeth Elworthy	404	0	0
Joseph Collier	510	0	0
Charles Fox	510	0	0
Mary Fox	222	0	0
Elizabeth Matravers	206	0	0
Elizabeth Were, Uffculme	303	0	0
Mary Were, do.	303	0	0
Walter Berry	182	0	0
Elizabeth Haviland	776	0	0
Thomas Bailey	417	0	0
Nicholas Were	2,431	4	0
Thomas Culverwell	500	0	0
Thomas Fox ¹	100	0	0
Stephen Matravers ¹	100	0	0
Thomas Fox	50	6	9

¹ The amount of their salaries for the previous year.

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APPENDIX G.

OPENING OF THE FIRST BANKING ACCOUNT WITH
MESSRS. DUNTZE, PRAED & CO., EXETER.

Partners: Duntze, Praed, Sanders & Hamilton.

Direct to John Duntze Esqr., M.P., Bank, Exon.

Copy of our Letter to them dated Wellington,
8th Aug., 1772.

Duntze, Praed & Co.
Exeter Bank.

Gentn.—

On reconsidering the Contents of your last Letter, we have some reason to think a Connection might be formed between us, so as to prove mutually advantageous. In case we find, the terms equally agreeable to both parties, to which purport request your answer to following queries—

On what terms would you undertake the transacting our whole banking Business, giving us a House in London on whom we might draw such Bills, as could not conveniently be negotiated on Exon, as also for negotiating, such Bills, as we occasionally draw, on our friends abroad, for which you to be our Security: ('This would not be to any very great amount, as we pay chiefly Cash, & are remitted by our friends: which remittances might go through your hands, to be immediately forwarded to London, & not pass into other peoples' in the Country, which we could not admit of.

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At what premium would you constantly supply us with Cash, or any part of what we might want against Bills of thirty days, or to be reckoned in that proportion, on the running Indorsements in your hands (we now allways pay 5/- per Cent.)

And as we are obliged, by so seldom going to Market, to have a large warehouse of Goods on hand, & being Manufacturers, to pay almost every article with ready money, we are frequently obliged, to overdraw our Bankers, & particularly at the Spring and fall before the sailing of the Dutch Ships, to a pretty considerable amount, after which our remittances come in very regularly to discharge the same, & rest money on hand. We therefore request to know, what Credit you would furnish us with at such times, or any others when we may require it and what Interest we must pay you for such advance that is from the time our drafts become payable, untill our Indorsements are into Cash to repay them, or from 30 days after we receive Cash, untill our said Indorsements are into Cash to repay it (which latter answers to Drafts of 30 days).

We suppose ourselves too well known to you to leave any doubt of our Solidity, & can with Truth assure you, that our Capital in Trade is very considerable & our landed property alone sufficient to secure us from the difficulties, to which people in Trade, even of large Capital's are sometimes exposed, by the failures of others.

We have chose to be rather prolix, on this occasion to prevent any misunderstanding, hereafter arising, should we form the desired Connection, & request you will be as explicit as possible in your answer, which you'll be pleased to have ready by Monday Evening, when shall order a

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person to call for it, or the next morning, you will oblige us by the preceding, being held secret & with great respect we remain

your assured friends.

Their answer to above.

Exeter Bank, Aug^t 10th, 1772.

Gentlemen,

We duely rec'd the favr of your Letter, in answer to which we can assure you, that it will give us all a very particular pleasure, to do business for so respectable a House, as yours is, and in order to settle it upon a sure and lasting foundation, we wish to transact it, upon the most fair, and equitable terms, and will therefore if you please make a Tryall for a few months, if afterwards it should appear upon a candid Examination that our profits are inadequate to our trouble, or that on the Contrary our Emoluments, should be greater than we ought reasonably to have expected, we make no doubt but such alterations, will readily be acquiesced in, on either Side, as shall be thought just.

We mean to transact, all your Banking business for $\frac{1}{4}$ per Cent, that is all Bills, you may have occasion to draw on London, as well as abroad, the writer of this and his Father before him, paid Mr Price for many years $\frac{1}{3}$ per Cent, on all Bills drawn on London & $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent for all foreign drafts exclusive of brokerage, which it is likewise understood Messrs. Were's must allow, but no more will be charged than what is paid, and usually allowed to the Brokers on those Occasions.

With regard to Cash we have after the rate of 7s 6d

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per 100%. of every Merchant in Exeter, you will be welcome to what you please, but we apprehend you will have no occasion to take up any on Bills, for if we transact your whole Business, you will only draw on our House, Whatever Bills go through our hands, you may depend upon it will not pass to those of other people's, we allways send our Bills directly to London. All that you pay us, will be placed to your Credit when due, all the Cash we pay you must be placed to your debit, the Commission of $\frac{1}{4}$ per Cent will be charged only on Bills that are drawn, and foreign Drafts, whatever we are in advance for you we reckon 5 per Cent Intrest for, which you will not think too much, when you consider that it will be paid off by degrees, in such sums, and at such times only as suits your own Conveniency, you will be welcome to overdraw as much as you please, whenever the state of our Cash will admit of it, & we think you might allways depend upon three or four Thousand Pounds, or perhaps more, in short we shall in everything, make it our pleasure, and study to oblige and accomodate you.

We have only to add, that it may be some little time before our House in London, will be in readiness, having met with some unforeseen delays, and therefore we should be glad if for the present you could permit us to draw, the Bills you might have occasion for on London, and the foreign Drafts, we should wish you to draw to our order (Exchange as in London) and we would take care to negotiate them after our House is establish'd in London, you will be able to draw from Wellington as you please, and your foreign bills can be drawn by our own House, on any of your friends, and negotiated on the Spot, we shall be glad to find our

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proposals, meet with your approbation, in the meanwhile
we remain with great regard,

Gentlemen,

y^r most ob^t serv^{ts}

Sign'd DUNTZE, PRAED & COY.

We hope there is no occasion to assure you of our
secrecy, having allways made it a rule to let nothing
transpire, that passes in our Bank.

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APPENDIX H.

Letter relating to the duties levied on woollen goods imported into Germany, and an Edict issued by Frederick the Great on the same subject.

Copy of a letter from Edw^d Hague, London, May 1774 to Rich^d Hippisley Coxe Esq^r: Member for Somersett relating to the Linnen & Woollen Manufactures.

Sir. Agreeable to promise I beg leave to transmit you a Copy of the Letter wrote to me the 6th past by Burgomaster Hoys of Ostende, who is an attached friend to the English, & has often lamented that our Woollen Fabrics, are so loaded in the Austrian Dominions.

‘The very heavy duties, now payable on Importation of your Woollens, into this Country, have been gradually increasing, ever since you taxed our Linnens & Laces so exorbitantly, And if can well be done, our Government has every great Inclination, to charge your Manufactories still more and more, for we are too much tributary to your Industry: the French Fabrics are not so much charged, as you may see, by the Exchange, for notwithstanding, the great number of Commodities we draw from France, as also of their India Goods, we ballance them by the quantity of Linnens & Laces, they take from us. Whereas you have made ours, as much as Contraband except for Exportation, &c.’

Prior to anno 1748, very few of our Woollens paid a duty in Flanders of more than five per Cent., and since that period they have increased so much, that a specie of

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white Woollen Cloth made in Wales, & always sold at Shrewsbury, now actually pays near 30 per Cent. on Importation, & a great many stuffs, made at Norwich & other parts of this Kingdom; pay from 15 to 20 Per Cent. ad valorem.

During the time that the late Duke of Newcastle was Minister, on application being made respecting the augmentation of these Dutys, he frankly confessed he saw clearly too great indulgence had been given to the Scotch & Irish fabrics, to the Detriment of our Woollen Trade on the Continent—but it was then, too late to be redressed, however trifling our Concerns with the Low Countries may appear, with submission, I beg leave to suggest for your Consideration, that we have a Vessel of 200 Tons burthen, sails from the Port of London to Ostende every 7 or 14 days at furthest, loaded with the produce of America (chiefly Rice & Tobacco) our Mines & our Woollens: there also Vessels sailing frequently from Topsham, Hull & Yarmouth, loaded entirely, with our woollen Fabrics, & all these Vessels return either in Ballast, or freighted with Linnen, Bags, used in our own Paper Manufactories. The French have lately so much improved their Fabrics of Stuffs at Lille & Amiens, that they are really now enabled to fabricate the striped Callimancoes & Camblettees (two of the chief articles sent to Germany) nearly equal in Quality, to them made in Spitalfields & Norwich, the only matter they are deficient in is merely, the pressing or dressing part, which is the most solid reason, that can be advanced, why our Fabrics ought not to be loaded, more than their Competitors, & which from any further Embarrassment by the matter now in agitation would ultimately be their destruction.

I shall be happy, to furnish you, with every informa-

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tion in my Power, and have the honor to be very respectfully
Sir &c.

Gazette No. 11466.

Translation of an Edict, to explain and renew, those formes issued, concerning the Transit and Importation of English Merchandise, and the Trade with England in general, Berlin May 11th 1774.

We Frederic by the Grace of God, King of Prussia, Margrave of Brandenburg, &c. &c. &c.: Whereas it has been reported to us from different places, that in regard to the trade with the subjects of Great Britain, and the merchandises, imported from Great Britain or that pass through our Dominions, the officers of our Customs have been frequently led, into error, in executing the ordinances & edicts of the late King our father of glorius memory, by not attending to the difference which ought to be observed, between the several Countries & provinces, but have indiscriminately applied that which ought to take place only, with regard to one province, to other provinces, where the same measures could not but be prejudicial to the trade in general, & to that of the transit in particular.

We have judged it necessary to declare, & to explain, by the present ordinance, the former Edicts in such manner, that all persons may know how to conduct themselves, & that for the future all Error, or mistake in the collecting of the Taxes, & Customs, may be avoided.

And we are the more disposed thereunto as our most earnest desire, & intention is not only to keep up the mutual commerce, which has hitherto subsisted with Great Britain, but also to extend, & facilitate it by every possible means. For these reasons we will & ordain by these presents.

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I.

With regard to the transit & passage, of all english merchandizes with out exception, which pass through our dominions, on the rivers towards the different parts of Germany, Poland, Bohemia, & all the neighbouring provinces, the duties of Transit, shall not be paid for the future, neither on the Elbe, nor by land, when the merchandises pass through the Country of Halberstadt, Magdebourg, & through other places, after the rates of the ordinance of the year 1752: that is to say, at the rate of 33 per Cent. but hereafter the payment shall be made, without having any regard, to the value of the merchandises, solely according to their weight, that is to say, for every Quintal of 110 pounds weight, a tax of six good groschen, if such merchandises are going to Saxony, & only the half of this light impost, whenever it shall be proved, that the consignment is made directly for the Empire, without touching the provinces of Upper Saxony.

As for the transit with regard to Silesia, where according to the constitutions of this province, it is regulated on the foot of Eight per Cent, for all foreign Merch^s whatsoever, who trade with Poland, there shall be no innovation, therein, & things shall remain with respect to all German, Polish, Dutch and other Merch^s on the antient foot. But in favour of english Merchants who shall use the route, that leads through Breslaw into Poland, these duties of transit shall be reduced to the half, and they shall be obliged to pay only at the rate of four per Cent. With respect to the different provinces of Mark & Pomerania, they shall remain exempt, from this present regulation, since hitherto the English consignments have not been made through these provinces, & could not have been made, on account of their natural

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situation, But as the principal trade of Great Britain in Poland, is directed by Dantzic & the Vistula, We order in the strictest manner, that english merchandises, which arrive in the manner by Sea in order to enter into Poland, of what kind or quality soever, except only Tobacco, & salt, shall absolutely pay no transit duty, nor shall be burthened, with any other Impost except those to which they have been subjected heretofore.

With regard to all our provinces in Westphalia, to wit the duchies of Cleves, and Gueldres, the principalities of Minden, East Friesland, and Meurs, the Counties of Mark, Ravensberg, Tecklenbourg, and Lingen, English Merchandises, shall not be subject therein to the least duty for the Transit, but shall be exempt therefrom, both at their coming in, and going out, even though the interests of commerce, or other circumstance should make it necessary to levy these duties upon other merchandises, whatever they may be, not coming from Great Britain or her Colonies.

2^d

With regard to the ordinary duties, which as is well known, are not burthensome in our provinces and dominions ;

We order that British subjects in the commerce of their national merchandises, which they shall import into, or convey through them, shall not be treated with more rigour, than our own Subjects with whom they shall in this respect, enjoy like advantages ; provided that such English Contractors, as furnish our Tobacco Company, with the necessary quantities of Virginia and Maryland tobacco, shall be entirely free, reserving nevertheless, to ourselves as circumstances shall require, the right of

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subjecting to the duties, the Dutch Hamburgh & other Merchants, when they shall trade in Tobacco, on their own Account.

As to what concerns in particular the Custom House of Fordan upon the Vistula, the same rules shall be observed, with regard to English Merchandize as are established by the regulation of the rate, and tariff of Poland ; and our officers shall be particularly attentive, & careful, that the Merchandises shall not be taxed, above their real value, but conformably to truth, and with the greatest accuracy.

3.

In relation to such English merchandizes, as are permitted to be imported, for internal consumption, they consist either in perishable commodities, or in raw materials, of Goods manufactured.

As to the first to wit, salted or dried provisions, English Beer, Tea, Coffee, Sugar in Casses, rice & Oil, which the english Ships import in large quantities, also Whale Oil and other merchandizes of this kind, the English Proprietors, or their Factors and Consigners, shall absolutely pay no more Excise, than our own subjects, who are most priviledged in Trade ; provided nevertheless, that this do not prejudice the right of burghership, of our maritime towns, & that the equality be solely attached to the merchandises.

It shall be the same with regard to the merchandises of the second class : as Pewter, Lead, Iron, flax, Horses, Indigo, gum, Logwood, and other ingredients for dying, declaring moreover, that in regard to the Tobacco and Salt, which the English proprietors shall sell, for the use of our Contractors, they shall be exempt from all excise, as they are of Customs.

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Reserving to ourselves, not to extend this to the Dutch, & Hamburgh contractors, if circumstances should appear to us to require it.

Lastly with respect to manufactured goods, regard shall be had to their different kinds, as well as to the difference which there may be between our provinces.

Hard Ware, wrought, pewter, and lead, as also Linnen Cloth, and Table Linnen, manufactured in England, may be imported into our dominions without distinction, and shall pay no other Taxes, than those paid by our own trading subjects, according to the different tariffs established with them. But as to Woollen, Cotton or Silk, stuffs, as also leathern wares, metal wares and lace, they may be imported into our provinces of East & West Prussia, in the quantity, which is permitted to the Merchants of our said provinces.

But with respect to our provinces on the Oder and Elbe, they shall remain under the regulations of former ordinances, particularly that of 20th March 1734 Issued by order of the late King our father.

Nevertheless in all our provinces of Westphalia above-mentioned, to wit the duchies of Cleves and Gueldres, the principalities of Minden, East Friesland & Meurs, the Counties of Mark, Ravensberg, Tecklenbourg, & Lingen, the importation of all these manufactured merchandises, as in general of all other English Merchandize, shall be permitted, without demanding for them the least Excise, and without anything being paid for them, except what the Towns have a right to demand for their publick Chests.

Finally we declare that whereas we are informed, that the officers of our Customs, in our seaports, particularly in Prussia & at Stettin in return for the treatment

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which our Ships receive in Consequence of the Art of Navigation seem to think, that those of the English, ought to be treated more rigorously, than those of other nations, we entirely disapprove of this, but on the contrary will and ordain, that excepting the usual duty, of the port or harbour, none whatever, shall be demanded from, or imposed on english ships, but that they shall be treated as the most friendly of all commercial nations.

Such is our pleasure, & for the greater surety we will that this our edict be printed, & published every where, we will, and ordain, that all our officers military, and civil, of what condition soever & particularly the departments, of our military & finances, the general administration of our Customs and Excise, all our Colleges of Justice, & all our subjects, without any exception whatever conform themselves hereto, and take care that this be duly executed, given at Berlin this 11th of May 1774.

FREDERIC.

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APPENDIX I.

LIST OF TOWNS IN WHICH T. WERE & SONS HAD
CUSTOMERS.

HOLLAND.

Utrecht.
Nimwegen.
Arnheim.
Rotterdam.
Amsterdam.
The Hague.
Middleburg.
Breda.
Dort.

FLANDERS.

Menin.
Dammes.
Grammont.
Brussels.
Courtray.
Antwerp.
Bruges.
Ghent.
Hasselt.

GERMANY.

Dorp.
Elberfeld.
Dusseldorf.
Mulheim.
Meurs.

HESSEN.

Frankfort.

SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN.

Altona.

WESTPHALIA.

Stopstein.
Minden.
Hopsten.

WURTEMBERG.

Stuttgart.

PRUSSIA.

Dantzig.
Konigsberg.

HANOVER.

Quakenbrugg.

BAVARIA.

Munich.

SAXONY.

Leipzig.

SILESIA.

Breslau.

RHEIN PROVINCES.

Cologne.

THURINGIA.

Augsburg.

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HANSEATIC TOWNS.

Bremen.

Lubeck.

Hamburg.

BALTIC PROVINCES.

Riga.

RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg.

AUSTRIA.

Vienna.

TIROL.

Botzen.

SWITZERLAND.

Schaffhausen.

Geneva.

Basle.

Winterthur.

Luxemburg.

FRANCE.

Dunkerque.

LORRAINE.

Nancy.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon (oil).

PORTUGAL.

Oporto (oil).

ITALY.

Genoa.

Turin.

Leghorn.

Padua.

Senegaglia.

Verona.

Bergamo.

Milan.

Naples.

Foligno.

Roma.

Bologna.

UNKNOWN.

Munster.

Novi.

Moneron.

Engelbert.

Hiers.

Tuckum.

Soewis.

Mandrid.

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APPENDIX J.

SOME FAMILY WILLS.

WILL OF PETER WERE, 1767.

Peter Were of Wellington, Somerset, gentleman, ‘who being weak of body but of a sound and disposing mind memory and understanding,’ by his will dated 28 January 1767, made the following bequests: To father and mother Thomas and Elizabeth Were, £42. To his sister Elizabeth Matravers, widow, the interest of £100 after the rate of £4 per year during her life and after her death the said sum of £100 to be paid to any person or persons to whom Elizabeth Matravers in her will may bequeath such sum, if no will is made the said £100 to be divided among the children of Elizabeth living at her death. To testator’s sister Anna, wife of Edward Fox, the interest of £100, and to testator’s sister Mary, wife of George Fox, the interest of £100, both legacies under conditions and provisoes similar to those governing the legacy to Elizabeth Matravers. To nephews Thomas and Robert Were sons of brother Robert Were and to nephews Thomas Fox and Stephen Matravers £20 each. To testator’s father’s late servants Peter Berry and John Berry, two guineas each. To Robert Fouraker and Mary Clarke ‘if liveing with me at my death one guinea each.’ To ‘my servant Thomas Hurford one guinea.’ To the nurse that shall attend me in my last sickness and lay me out three guineas.’ To poor ‘Friends’ attending Spice-land Meeting five guineas. To poor ‘Friends’ attending

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Wellington Meeting five guineas. To my workmen Joseph Pyne, Thomas Hurford, and Samuel Tomes 'all my cloths and wareing apparrell such as silk linnen and woollen to be divided between them.' Residue to testator's brothers Robert Were, Thomas Were, Nicholas Were and William Were, they to pay to brother John Were an annuity of £4 during his life, also £100 to brother Joseph Were. Brothers Robert, Thomas, Nicholas and William joint executors and residuary legatees.

Signed and sealed by Peter Were in the presence of Joseph Pine and John Sellwood.

WILL OF THOMAS WERE, 1773.

Will of Thomas Were of Wellington, Somerset, merchant, dated 12 February, 1773. Bequeathed to his wife, Elizabeth Were, all his messuages, lands, tenements and freehold estates (except messuage and lands called Sowdon in Burlescombe, Devon, the new erected dwelling house and Fulling Mills in Runnington, Somerset, and such shops, warehouses, store rooms, outhouses and other buildings belonging or erected near his dwelling house in South Street, Wellington, used by his sons as copartners in the mercantile business, also except close of pasture ground called Bulls mead near the dwelling house, being part of lands purchased of Thomas Southey and others, also except two closes of land, about ten acres, near the aforesaid Fulling Mills parcels of a tenement called Carsewells in Wellington) for a term of 99 years if she shall so long live. Also to his wife all leasehold estates, messuages, lands and tenements for so many years as shall expire in her lifetime. Also all silver plate, rings, watches, china-ware, four-wheeled post chaise, household goods,

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

books and provisions. Also 40s. weekly for two years after death of testator. Also the rooms, in testator's house in Wellington, not used in trade, with a stable, gardens, and space for storing wood, for 99 years.

To testator's four sons Robert, Thomas, Nicholas and William a close of pasture called Bulls mead, the house in the possession of Samuel Cuff in Wellington, except the buildings for trade in Bulls mead and carriage way thereto, to hold so long as testator's wife Elizabeth should live, subject to an annuity hereinafter mentioned. After his wife's death the aforesaid parts of dwelling house not used in trade, stable, chaise house and gardens, also Bulls mead which is not built on, the house in possession of Samuel Cuff were for son William Were for ever subject to provisoes that he pay to son Joseph Were £100, failing this payment of £100 the said property to go to sons Robert, Thomas, and Nicholas Were upon trust to raise by sale £100 upon such property for Joseph and if there be any overplus such should go to Thomas and Robert Were, sons of testator's son Robert Were. Testator bequeathed to his sons Robert, Thomas, Nicholas and William his new house, fulling mills, gardens, and appurtenances for trade in Runnington, also the shops and buildings for trade near or belonging to his dwelling house in Wellington, also the buildings on Bulls Meadow (except the rooms in dwelling house used for habitation and the house occupied by Samuel Cuff and the close called Bulls mead), also Carswell's closes, to hold in fee as tenants in common subject to an annuity to testator's wife, a legacy of £200, and provisoes concerning trade.

To testator's wife an annuity of £13 out of Carswell's tenement, and an annuity of £11 out of Bulls Meadow and the house occupied by Samuel Cuff. To son Joseph

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Were £200 to be paid after wife's death out of the Runnington property and dwelling house in Wellington. Provided also that neither of testator's four sons should sell or dispose of his part of the house, mills, buildings etc. for trade to anyone except to a son, nephew, or son-in-law, who may enter into partnership. If any of said four sons should die without issue his portion in the trade to remain for the benefit of the surviving sons carrying on the trade. Testator willed that his four sons should admit as partners in trade, on equitable terms, his grandsons Stephen Matravers and Thomas Fox. Devised to his son Robert Were a moiety of farm and lands called Gyles's in Wellington then in possession of Thomas Handford, subject to testator's wife's estate in it for life, also messuages called Greenslades formerly in the possession of Robert Brown situate near the Quaker Meeting House in Wellington, in fee. Also gave to son Robert Sowden in Burlescombe, Devon, also Woolcotts (which was purchased of Thomas Southey) for ever, with liberty to pass and repass from South Street through the lane there into Bulls Mead and from thence to the orchard belonging to messuage called Woolcotts, also right of way from the orchard belonging to his mansion house in South Street into a close called Bulford land over the pathway at the upper end of the same close into Eight Acres Lane. Also devised to son Robert dwelling houses etc. called Henleys, Perrots and Nurtons near Holywell Lake and Fourteen Down in Wellington, together with the nursery which was purchased of John Chetwood and Thomas Marsh. Also to son Robert moneys due to testator from Anthony Marys and Robert Birt. Devised to son Thomas cottages with gardens etc. in Mantle Street situate between the 'Three Cups' inn and Chamfoot Lane

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end in Wellington which were purchased of Woolcott and testator's sister-in-law Priscilla Berry ; also two closes of land situate near Mantle Street bought of Robert Baker and John Parsons ; also two closes called Bulford lands in Wellington, about 13 acres; also tenement called Farthings Pitts purchased of — Prowse Esqre. in Wellington ; also Newtons close with the barn thereon (subject to testator's wife's estate therein). Recites a doubt whether Newtons was not already settled on son Robert in which case Robert was to convey Newtons to Thomas or pay him £500 in lieu thereof. Devised also to son Thomas (after testator's wife's death) all leaseholds in Wellington held under the Dean of Wells. Devised to son Nicholas (subject to testator's wife's estate therein) tenements called Harris's, Sadlers and Foorts at Westleigh in Burlescombe, Devon, also messuages etc. called Nodlands or Wills's at Rowgreen, then in possession of Jane Spiller, widow, Ann Stradling, widow, George Rutter, Thomas Stradling, and John Pyne, also devised to Nicholas messuage etc. called Penslade which was purchased of John Marsh in Uffculme, Devon, also messuage called Osmonds in Uffculme formerly belonging to testator's brother Robert Were deceased, also reversion and inheritance of Westcotts in Burlescombe. Unto son William Were testator devised (subject to wife's estate therein) messuages, lands, etc. in Sampford Peverell, Devon, formerly possessions of testator's brother Robert Were, also Lancocks farm in Wellington, also Carsewells tenement in Wellington, except 10 acres before devised to the four sons for trade ; also three closes part of Hillylands purchased of Edmund Antrobus in Wellington, also two dwelling houses in Fore Street, Wellington, purchased of Thomas Harrison.

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The will, after reciting that testator's sons Robert, Thomas, Nicholas, William, and Joseph were bound by bond to pay his son Joseph's debt of £1600 to Charles Fox and Joseph Collier both of Plymouth, directs that son William should pay off of this debt £1300 out of Lancocks which was charged with the same. Unto his grandsons Stephen Matravers and Thomas Fox testator bequeathed £150 each. To daughters Elizabeth Matravers, Anna Fox and Mary Fox, £100 each. To daughter Elizabeth Matravers, widow, an annuity of £12 ; to her children who should live to 21 or marry, £300 to be divided as Elizabeth should direct by will. Unto daughter Anna wife of Edward Fox of Eggleshall, Cornwall, shopkeeper, an annuity of £12, and to her children £300. Unto daughter Mary wife of George Fox of Falmouth, Cornwall, merchant, an annuity of £12, and to her children £300. To testator's son Joseph £100. To Elizabeth wife of son Robert, Mary wife of son Thomas, Mary wife of son Nicholas, Elizabeth wife of son Joseph, £21 each. To the poor Quakers frequenting Wellington Meeting House and the Spiceland Meeting in Culmstock, £5 for each Meeting. John Selwood £1 1s. Nurse Chorley, nurse Alloway, Peter Berry and William Brown, 10s. 6d. each. Residue to sons Robert, Thomas, Nicholas and William Were who were also to be the executors. Any deficiency in assets to pay debts, annuities or legacies to be met : one fourth by son Robert out of Giles's, another fourth by son Thomas out of Bulford land, another fourth by son Nicholas out of Penslade, remaining fourth by son William out of Lancocks. Any disputes between testator's sons or grandsons concerning the will to be determined by Robert Davis of Minehead, Joseph Ball and Arthur Gundry, or any two of them.

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Signed by Thomas Were in the presence of W. P. Thomas, Prockter Thomas and Abm. Shorland.

A *Codicil* made 14 June, 1773, makes void so much of the devise of two closes called Bulford land to Thomas Were as relates to one close adjoining the orchard belonging to mansion house where son Robert lived, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres, which close is hereby devised to son Robert, but Robert was to pay Thomas £150, and Thomas was to receive another £150 out of the portion of the residuary estate that belonged to sons Robert, Nicholas and William. To Thomas, after his mother's death, right of way from Rowes Acre Lane, through the close hereby devised to Robert and from thence to the lower close called Bulford land.

A second *Codicil* dated 12 February 1776, gave the use only of certain goods and chattels to testator's wife during her life instead of possession as in will. After wife's death the said goods, etc., to go to son William. Also a new erected linney shed, or penthouse, adjoining dwelling house to be for wife during life, then to son William.

Both the Codicils were witnessed by the same three who were witnesses to the will.

WILL OF ROBERT WERE, 1777.

Robert Were, by his will dated 5 February 1777, gave to his wife Elizabeth Were an annuity of £30, also £2000 Upon Trust to lend the same to his brothers and cousins partners in trade at 4 per cent. per annum, also gave her household goods, plate, china, etc., also his mansion house, gardens, orchard and land in his own occupation, and Bulford land adjoining (subject to his mother's estate for

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life therein) for her life. Remainder of said premises after his wife's death to his son Thomas in fee. But if testator's brother Thomas should die and give his house to testator's son Thomas before the last said Thomas was 21 then the abovesaid bequest of testator's house and Bulford land should go to testator's son Robert Were in fee charged with the payment of £300 to said son Thomas. Devised to testator's wife his barton farm and lands called Gyles's, or Giles's, in Wellington for life and after her death to son Robert in fee charged with the following legacies :—To son Samuel £500, daughter Sarah £200. If Robert died before 21 then Gyles's after death of wife should go to son William in fee, charged with the two legacies to said Samuel and Sarah. Testator devised Sowdon and all his lands in Burlescombe, Devon, and his two houses and gardens at Farthings Pitt in Wellington to his son Thomas in fee ; also all his estate and interest in the ' Beam and Scales ' in the market of Honiton, Devon ; also his houses etc. called Greenslade's, Southey's and Woolcott's near the Quakers' Meeting in Wellington. To his son William testator's houses etc. called Henleys, Perrots and Nurtons lying at Holywell Lake and Fourteen Down in Wellington, with a nursery thereto belonging ; also £100. To testator's wife and such of his children whose names were entered in the book of the co-partners called the Trade Ledger all such moneys as are therein set down to the credit of his said wife and children. Executors to place out at interest on security £1500 for daughter Sarah, the interest to be used for her maintenance during minority. To testator's mother and four brothers Thomas, Nicholas, William and Joseph, and his three sisters Elizabeth, Anna and Mary, and his brother-in-law Charles Fox, two sisters-in-law Margaret Fox and Mary Collier, his cousins Stephen

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Matravers and Thomas Fox, to each of them ten guineas. To cousin Hannah Channon £2 2s.; Elizabeth Lugg, widow, £5 5s.; Ann Clarke of Bridge Town, spinster, £5 5s.; servant Betty Clarke £3 3s.; servant William Fouracre £5 5s.; servants and labourers John Selwood, Thomas Hurford, William Brown and Peter Berry £1 1s. each. To the poor Quakers frequenting Wellington Meeting £5 5s.; and Spiceland Meeting £5 5s. Residue of lands to brothers Thomas Were and Nicholas Were and his cousins Stephen Matravers and Thomas Fox. In Trust for his wife for her life and after her death. In Trust for all his sons their heirs and assigns as tenants in common. The residue of goods, chattles, moneys, securities, stock in trade and personal estate to trustees for the use of sons Thomas, Robert, William and Samuel in equal proportions. Wife Elizabeth, brothers Thomas and Nicholas, and cousins Thomas Fox and Stephen Matravers to be executors. His late daughter Elizabeth's gold watch to his wife to be bestowed upon one of his children. A charge of £150 (laid upon Bulford land by testator's father to be paid to testator's brother Thomas after death of testator's mother) to be paid to said brother Thomas out of residuary estate when it became due. If any dispute should arise between testator's children concerning the will the matter in dispute to be referred to Charles Fox of Plymouth, merchant, Joseph Ball of Bridgwater, merchant, and Robert Davis of Minehead, merchant, and that the adjudication of any two of them should be final, but if any of his children should be dissatisfied with such determination and seek relief therefrom in any Court of Law or Equity, such child should upon the commencement of any suit pay to his other children acquiescing in such decision the sum of £200.

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Signed by Robert Were in the presence of William Prockter Thomas of Wellington, gent., and William Potter and Caleb Roache both of Wellington and both servants to the said Robert Were and Company.

Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 14 August 1777, by the Executors, Elizabeth Were, widow and relict of the testator, Thomas Were, Nicholas Were, Thomas Fox and Stephen Matravers.

WILL OF WILLIAM WERE, 1781.

26 July, 1781. To his brother Nicholas Were, his lands, &c. in Devon and Somerset. Brothers Nicholas Were and Joseph Were 1500*l.* each. Sisters Elizabeth Matravers of Westbury, Wilts., widow ; Hannah wife of Edward Fox of Wadebridge, Cornwall, 500*l.* each ; Mary wife of George Fox of Falmouth, Cornwall, 400*l.* Nephews and niece Thomas, Robert, Samuel, and Sarah, children of his late brother, Robert Were 150*l.* each, and unto William, another son of his said late brother, the sum of 400*l.*, to be paid at their respective ages of 21 years. To nephew Thomas, son of Edward Fox, 450*l.* Edward Fox, another son of said Edward. 100*l.* Mary, wife of brother Nicholas, 300*l.* Elizabeth wife & relict of his late brother Robert Were, & to Elizabeth wife of his brother Joseph Were, 100*l.* each. To nieces Sarah, Elizabeth, & Catherine, daughters of his brother Nicholas Were, & to the child or children with which the wife of the said Nicholas Were was then enceinte, 100*l.* each. Brothers-in-law George Fox and Edward Fox, 50*l.* each. Nephew, Stephen Matravers, 250*l.*, and unto John his brother, 100*l.* Cousin Amy Berry, 120*l.* Sarah, wife of Edward Dare, Elizabeth Hurley, widow, & William Vickery, his servants, 50*l.*

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each. To the said Sarah Dare, Elizabeth Hurley, and William Vickery, 4s. each per week for their natural lives, with power of distress on the estate called Lancocks. To Ann Hurford, spinster, his servant, 20*l.* and 2*s.* weekly for life. Unto every Child of Brother Joseph Were, 100*l.* each at their respective ages of 21 years. To aunt Mrs. Haviland, 50 guineas. To Peter Berry, 10 guineas. 20*l.* for poor of Wellington. 20*l.* to be distributed amongst the poor Friends or People called Quakers belonging to Wellington. 5*l.* for poor Quakers belonging to and frequenting the Meeting at Spiceland. To Philip Stark and Robert Fouracre, 10*l.* a piece. Unto Caleb Roach, Thomas Hurford the elder, Joseph Pyne, Robert Bull, William Richards, & Joseph Lane, and to all and every his labourers not hereinbefore mentioned working for him at Tone at his decease, 2 guineas each. Unto Samuel How, William Bellamy, Thomazin Brown & Robert Hill, 4 guineas each. William Fouracre, 1*l.* 1*s.*, Anne Wood, 3*l.* 3*s.*, Robert Parsons, William Coleman & Joan Swain, 5*l.* 5*s.* each. Brother Nicholas Were, residuary legatee.

(Memorandum signed by Thos. Fox dated 12th of 7th month (July) 1817, as follows:—‘The Legacies charged under this Will & Codicil have been paid as well as Fox & Collier’s debt of 1600*l.* The annuitants are all dead.’)

WILL OF NICHOLAS WERE, 1795.

10 Nov. 1795. Devised his messuages, hereditaments, &c., called or known as Lancocks, Carswells otherwise Kerswells, Rowgreen ground, Wills’s or Nodlands & Withimans, all situate in the parish of Wellington, then in the possession or occupation of John Morgan as his tenant, unto his wife, and after her death to his son Nicholas Were.

AT WELLINGTON

APPENDIX K.

Transcription of an ancient Document written in Latin, and dated the 29th day of November in the 19th year of the Reign of King Henry VIII. (29 November 1527). This Document is with a bundle of old Deeds belonging to Messrs. Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Tonedale, Wellington, Somerset, January 1914.

LET MEN PRESENT AND FUTURE

know that we JOHN TAYLOR Welchman of Wellynton in the County of Somerset and ANASTASIA his Wife have delivered demised and by this our present Charter have confirmed to RICHARD TAYLOR my Son and Joan his Wife ALL our Burgage with all its appurtenances lying in the South Street in the Borough of Wellynton between the land of John Yong on the North side and the land of John Wekes on the southern side and the Land of the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells called Bulfurlong on the western side and the Highway on the eastern side : To have and to hold the foresaid Burgage with all its appurtenances to the foresaid Richard Taylor and Joan his Wife their heirs and assigns for ever of the Chief Lords of that fee by the rent and services therefor due and of right accustomed : And we indeed the foresaid John Taylor and Anastasia and our heirs the foresaid Burgage with all its appurtenances will to the foresaid Richard Taylor and Joan his Wife their heirs and assigns against all people warrant acquit and for ever by these presents defend And

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also know ye that we the foresaid John Taylor and Anastasia his Wife have ordained made and put in our place our beloved in Christ William Waryn and John Yonge our true lawful Attorneys jointly and separately to enter the said Burgage with all its appurtenances aforesaid and thereof full and peaceful possession and seisin to deliver to the foresaid Richard Taylor according to the tenor and effect of this our present Charter made to him.

In witness whereof to these presents we have put our Seals. These being Witnesses, William Colwyll then Provost of the Borough of Wellynton, Thomas Trowe, Constable, Thomas Hussey, Bailiff, John Taylor, William Gooddere and Thomas Bud and many others. Dated at Wellynton the xxixth day of the Month of November in the 19th Year of the Reign of King Henry VIII.

[29 November 1527]

AT WELLINGTON

APPENDIX L.

The System of Profit Sharing referred to as instituted by the firm consisted in allowing within certain limits all those in their employ to deposit money, for which they received interest at a rate varying from $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ to 10% , in accordance with the profits made each year. This system has been in operation for fifty-one years, and considerable sums have thus been deposited.

OLD AGE PENSIONS—BEGUN IN 1874.

Annexed is a copy of the new rules relating to this matter, it having been found necessary to make some alteration in consequence of the Government Scheme having come into operation.

COPY.—The following *New Rules* will come into force *October 1st, 1908* :—

1. Fox Brothers & Co., Ltd., will give a pension to all persons who have left their employ, who at the time of leaving shall have attained the age of sixty-five years, and who shall have been in their employ uninterruptedly for twenty-five years previously, or to any person who shall have worked for the firm for forty years continuously, whatever their age at leaving.
2. The rate of Pensions will be as follows :
 $2/6$ per week to those who are over 70 years of age, and who are in receipt of a State Pension.

THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE

(The case of any person over this age who is not entitled to a State Pension will be considered on its merits.)

7/6 per week to those from 65 to 70 years of age.

5/- per week to those under 65 years of age.

3. Any person entitled under Rule 1 to receive a Pension must make application for it in writing addressed to Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd.
4. The applications must state the age of the applicants, and the number of years they have worked for Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., also how many years they have worked uninterruptedly for them previously to relinquishing work.
5. Fox Brothers & Co., Limited, reserve to themselves the right to make any alterations in these Rules necessitated by any future alteration or extension of the State Pension Scheme, or for any other reason, and to decline to grant or continue any pension should they deem it desirable on account of the character of the applicant, or from any other cause.

Any one under the age of 70 now in receipt of a Pension will have the option of accepting the New Rules.

FOX BROTHERS & CO. LIMITED.

Dated October 1st, 1908.

AT WELLINGTON

APPENDIX M.

VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY BELONGING TO THOMAS FOX IN 1819.

Tonedale estate, rented by trade	£12,000
Tone mill, racks, etc.	2,700
5 cottages ¹	300
3 cottages, Coram's Lane	250
3 cottages, Winsbear	100
Buildings and land at Westford ²	650
Farm at Spears	650
Dwelling house, garden, orchard, coach-house, and stable	3,500
Great millhouse and stream of water	3,500
Little millhouse	1,500
Warehouse and scouring house	300
Woollofts and tending shop	2,000
Serge chamber and lodge	1,200
Edward's house and garden ⁴	1,100
Thomas' house and garden ⁴	1,200
Trade premises ⁵	1,400
Great mill and stream of water at Coldharbour ⁶	2,700
Dwelling house, new house, garden, &c. ⁶	300
Coldharbour meadows ⁶	1,700

Carried forward £37,050

¹ Now called Five Houses.

² Probably the old tannery which adjoined, or was a part of Landcox.

³ The dwelling house at Tonedale.

⁴ These were the houses in Wellington in which Thomas and Edward Fox lived. They were the two eldest sons of Thomas Fox.

⁵ Known as Trade House in South Street, adjoining Bulford House.

⁶ Situated at Uffculme.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE, WELLINGTON

	Brought forward	£37,050
Land and House, &c., Sweatlands ¹		1,600
Old fulling mill and orchard ¹		200
Schoolhouse and Garden		250
Cottages and about 3 acres of land		400
11 acres of land on Uffculm Down, planted .		180
150 acres of land on Blackdown, 120 planted .		1,600
		<u>£41,280</u>

Personal Property.

Wheal Chance mine	£700
Bristol Tontine	150
2 houses, moiety of each at Falmouth ² . .	1,000
Household goods, carriage and horses . .	1,000
800 3 % stock	550
Money at interest	8,529
Capital in trade	29,341
	<u>£41,270</u>

¹ Situated at Uffculme.

² This property came to him from his grandfather Thomas Were, one of whose daughters, Mary, married George Croker Fox of Falmouth.

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